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Page 11 1 PROCEEDINGS 2 [SEE EXAMPLES] 3 4 5 CLERK: All rise. 6 THE COURT: Please be seated. Good morning. 7 re Sears Holdings Corporation, et al. 8 MR. GENENDER: Good morning, Your Honor, Paul 9 Genender, Weil, Gotshal & Manges for the debtors. And when 10 the Court's ready, we'd like to proceed with our motion on 11 the 2L's experts. THE COURT: The motion in limine. 12 13 MR. GENENDER: Yes, yes, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Okay. 15 MR. MOLONEY: Good morning, Your Honor. 16 Moloney and Andrew Weaver of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & 17 Hamilton LLP on behalf of ESL. THE COURT: Good morning. And I suppose you want 18 19 to proceed with your motion in limine too? 20 MR. MOLONEY: Yeah. Well, yes. But when it's 21 time for me to talk or now I would suggest that I think that 22 they are two different qualitative motions and that the 23 motion that we've advanced dealing with the parol evidence 24 questions are ones that I think you should hear as a 25 threshold level.

The other motion -- and frankly we've raised similar issues in our briefs about the competence and some of the assumptions, the correction of some of -- the correctness of some of the opinions, the basis for the evidence. I think that might be better dealt with, frankly, in the course of the cross-examinations with people reserving their rights after the declaration is entered to move at the end of those declarations to strike testimony. But Your Honor obviously will proceed however you think is best.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. LIUBICIC: Good morning, Your Honor. Robert Liubicic with Milbank on behalf of Cyrus Capital Partners LP. And with me today, Your Honor, is Tom Kreller, also with Milbank.

MR. FOX: Good morning, Your Honor. Edward Fox with Seyfarth Shaw on behalf of Wilmington Trust National Association as collateral agent and indentured trustee. And with me also is my partner, Steven Paradise.

THE COURT: Okay, good morning. All right. I
think I probably should take both motions in limine now. As
I think I've told all of you, I'm not a big fan of motions
in limine. And normally these issues can come up when
there's objections to specific testimony. But here
testimony is -- I think there -- I think the testimony would

Page 13 1 benefit from some guidance on both motions. 2 I don't know if we have the experts here and 3 whether the parties are content to have them stay here since 4 people will be commenting on their testimony before they 5 testify. 6 MR. MOLONEY: Our expert's here, but we have no problem with their experts staying for this part of the 7 8 testimony. 9 THE COURT: Okay. 10 MR. GENENDER: Mr. Griffith is here 11 (indiscernible) on call. But we don't have an issue as 12 well, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: All right. So I don't care who goes 14 first. 15 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I stood up first, so 16 that's got to count for something. Your Honor, Paul 17 Genender, Weil, Gotshal and Manges on behalf of the debtors. 18 I didn't introduce -- I'm obviously here with my partners, 19 Ray Schrock and Sunny Singh. May I approach, Your Honor? I 20 have a demonstrative and some excerpts that we'll be using 21 throughout the course of the day. I've given them to 22 Counsel. 23 THE COURT: Okay. 24 MR. GENENDER: Thank you. 25 THE COURT: All right. But these don't really go

Page 14 to the motions in limine, do they? Or only to a minor 1 2 extent. 3 MR. GENENDER: Somewhat. Somewhat. 4 THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, our -- I'm going to --5 6 knowing how the Court feels about these sorts of motions, 7 I'm going to be brief and I'm going to -- and I know the 8 Court's read the materials. 9 We certainly understand that striking experts is 10 not a routine matter. In this case I submit it warrants 11 consideration. This is not a motion about the 12 qualifications of Mr. Schulte, of Mr. Henrich, or Ms. 13 Murray, rather it's a motion to strike what we think is 14 unreliable and flawed opinions that lack the credibility 15 required to be presented to this court. 16 At the outset, the Debtors submit that the 507(b) 17 matter is not nearly as complicated as the second lienholders would have this court believe. In fact, it's an 18 19 entirely fact-based exercise, as shown by the Debtor's 20 submission and reliance upon the factual testimony of Brian 21 Griffith and Brandon Abersold. Compared with ResCap, this 22 507(b) determination is far more straightforward. As this court has noted, we have an actual outcome 23 of the sale and related GOB sales. So this should be a much 24 25 easier process. As expressed in this Court's own words in

April, on April 18th, we actually have the facts so it's a lot easier --

MR. MOLONEY: This is more like a closing argument than a motion in limine.

THE COURT: Well, let me try to cut through this.

I don't get the impression that you are looking to strike these expert declarations on the basis of Daubert and Kumho Tire, right? It really goes to two separate different grounds. The first is that they're in essence not expert declarations at all, they're basically just comments on the factual record before me, which is in essence the same basis as the second lienholder's objection. Although they also point out the flip side, which is that Mr. Griffith isn't testifying as an expert in the first place, but in essence he's just commenting on facts, and to the extent he's not commenting on facts, I shouldn't hear his testimony because he's not an expert.

The flip side of that is it seems to me that these experts who, as you say, are perfectly qualified to present expert testimony are in essence commenting on the facts and not providing expert testimony except in very limited portions of their declarations. On top of that, I think you also suggest that they rely on expert reports without having vetted them in an expert way, primarily the Tiger appraisal, but also appraisals underlying the equity bids. Is that

Page 16 1 fair? 2 MR. GENENDER: Yes, Your Honor. 3 THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: And so it's not -- the basis of the 4 5 motion relates to the fact that they're relying upon faulty 6 assumptions so their testimony isn't helpful to you. Now, I 7 8 THE COURT: Well, you could point out the faulty 9 assumptions. I think that the bigger issue is whether the 10 testimony should be given the (indiscernible) of expert 11 testimony when it's basically just fact testimony or 12 commenting on facts that appear in the record without really 13 an expert analysis behind it. 14 MR. GENENDER: And there's a significant 15 difference, as this court knows well, between these three 16 proffered experts by the second lienholders on the one hand 17 and Mr. Griffith on the other. 18 THE COURT: Well, that's the nature of the expert 19 testimony. 20 MR. GENENDER: Well, but Mr. Griffith is offering 21 fact testimony, but he has firsthand factual knowledge 22 because he's been working on this at Sears for three-and-ahalf years. And that's the basis from which -- that's the 23 vantagepoint from which he's offering his either 24 25 observations or --

THE COURT: Well, he is just a fact witness. So it's really -- these motions are actually flip sides of each other. They're objecting to Mr. Griffith's motion to the extent it purports to be expert testimony -- I'm sorry, to the extent it purports to be fact testimony when in fact it's expert testimony. You're objecting to the three experts on the basis that what purports to be expert testimony is really fact testimony.

MR. GENENDER: Yes. And I stand before you well aware that Your Honor can take the position that it goes to the weight and not the admissibility. However, I do think in this situation it rises to the level of when they have three different opinions that are widely divergent based on widely different sets of flaws, and we submit that Mr. Griffith just did math and took into -- and followed this court's instructions in April, which were you have the facts of the sale, keep this simple. I wouldn't -- you've said to the effect don't spend a lot of time and money on this.

THE COURT: It's not -- it may -- it's quite

possible that three sets of professionals can make three

different legal arguments based upon their assessments of

the facts. So I don't have a problem with the fact that

they each take a different assessment of the facts. But my

problem is, with some very minor exceptions, it doesn't

really strike me as an expert assessment because there's no

real expert analysis here that helps me.

MR. GENENDER: Your Honor --

THE COURT: And on top of that, while experts are certainly entitled to rely on facts, where experts rely on other experts' testimony without vetting it, I have a problem, too. And that's where they rely on the Tiger reports and other appraisals.

MR. GENENDER: So, Your Honor, I think that the point that you're making is really the point we were making in our June 27th response and reply papers, that we think this motion, these motions could actually be decided on the papers themselves. Because as it relates to the actual source documents necessary to make this determination, we submit they're actually in this small demonstrative before you in that you have -- for petition date, borrowing base, work from there. We had the sale. And so what are the tensions, Your Honor? There's really three tensions in this whole dispute. And one is how do you value the inventory and should a fair market analysis be applied to it.

THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to interrupt you because we not getting -- but I think -- cutting to the chase, although I'll hear counsel for the second lienholders. My preliminary take on this motion, which may well be my final take on it, is that I am giving very little weight, notwithstanding my respect for all three of the

experts, to their testimony as expert testimony. In other words, this is not a case where I would say in a complicated matter that requires expert financial analysis. I find the experts credible and their analysis persuades me that this is the value, because it's not that type of analysis. It's primarily a legal analysis based on facts that they have been given and other expert analysis they've been given that they didn't, as far as I can see, vet in any way.

So I'm not going to grant the motion, but if there's any doubt about it, either for the parties appearing in front of me today on appeal, I'm really not granting these reports the type of weight that I would give a valuation testimony where I would listen to cross-examination on the margins but obviously accept a lot of what the expert is telling me as true expert analysis.

MR. GENENDER: So then Your Honor I can ask so that we're most efficient with your -- our time here when evidence is put on, we do submit that some of these issues that they're opining on are legal assumptions that the court can make from documents to wit are letters of credit 1L debt or not? And --

THE COURT: I think that's true.

MR. GENENDER: And we'll just handle it in crossexamination, and I'll be as efficient as I can be.

THE COURT: Okay. In other words, it crosses your

Page 20 opportunity and Mr. Moloney's and Mr. Fox's and everyone else's opportunity in essence to have oral argument with the expert or through the expert. MR. GENENDER: And if I hit a -- and I would ask as an indulgence from the Court, if I hit an area that you think is -- you don't need testimony on because you think it's a legal matter, I would ask you just to let me know. THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: Thank you, Judge. THE COURT: Well, and that includes -- I mean, this -- it starts with the goose, it starts with the gander. Interpretation of the reach of the second lien, for example, is a pure legal issue. It's not a factual issue. You know, does it apply to cash, does it apply to pharmacy scripts, et cetera. I think the experts are generally -- the three experts for the second lienholders are generally consistent in saying that that was just an assumption that they were given by Counsel. But, you know, those obviously are not worth cross-examining on. That's a legal point. MR. MOLONEY: Thank you, Your Honor. And, Your Honor, I have a handout too for -- if I may approach the bench? THE COURT: Yes. MR. MOLONEY: With copies for (indiscernible). I

think there's a qualitatively different motion which I think

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Your Honor just granted (indiscernible), which is, Your
Honor, I understand I'm not going to reargue the first part
which you ruled. I would make a few observations.

One is that in all the cases that we looked at, and I might have read a million cases involving 507(b) and also cases where you value property for 506. Courts invariably have relied on expert testimony for valuation questions. And I think that there are really two pivotal valuation questions, and almost everything else is legal. The two pivotal valuation questions are what was the value of our collateral as a petition date. I think that is an appropriate topic for expert testimony in terms of valuing the inventory. I think everything else is just legal questions, what's included and what's not. And I think this is --

THE COURT: That's fair, but these reports

basically rely on the company's books and records and don't

provide any expert analysis of them as far as I can see or

rely on a separate appraisal that was done shortly before

the petition date, or proposals that were made without

actually evaluating the inventory and receivables. Which is

understandable, because receivables and inventory are -- I

mean, they could question the assumptions, whether it's at a

discount or not and how you do them, but they pretty much

just accept the books and records or critique them as a

Page 22 1 lawyer would do. 2 MR. MOLONEY: Well, that's not actually true, Your 3 Honor. 4 THE COURT: Okay. 5 MR. MOLONEY: And I think that's why I thought it 6 would be better to do this later. Because for example, my 7 witness, Mr. Schulte, provides almost no reliance, if any, on Tiger and is relying on the actual performance of the 8 9 company by looking at what they did when they actually sold 10 the inventory. 11 THE COURT: But that's the facts. And I can rely 12 on that, too. You could show me that fact. 13 MR. MOLONEY: And also applying the issue which was really the defining question in Sabine, which I know 14 15 Your Honor is familiar with because you're involved in 16 mediating as to what is the proper 4 wall EBITDA analysis 17 and what that entails and what expenses are picked up by 18 that. And that's normally the province of an expert. 19 THE COURT: That's fair. There were tiny pieces 20 of these declarations that have some expert element to them. 21 MR. MOLONEY: They were tiny, but they were 22 actually important in terms of I think the tableau, Your 23 Honor. But that's for -- but anyways, I'm not going to 24 reargue any of that because essentially --25 THE COURT: I'm not excluding these declarations,

I'm just telling you that I think I can navigate through what is real expert testimony that's helpful and testimony that really isn't expert testimony.

MR. MOLONEY: So let's now move to the second.

And it's I think a categorically different in limine motion.

And as I said, I think Your Honor already granted half of

it, which is that we don't think it's appropriate for any

lay witness to be telling you as to what's included or not

included as a legal matter in our collateral package. I

think Your Honor was going to make that determination about

the legal argument. But none of the witnesses are qualified

to help you with that.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. MOLONEY: The second question is -- and this is whether they have a basis for their alternative theory of value, which is that when this case started, you recall what they filed. And (indiscernible) motion which then got converted to a 3012 motion. And now we have the burden of proving what our secure claim was. But they've continued with a basic assumption that you look at what the inventory supposedly was sold at under the APA, which they claim was 85 cents. And that's the value for the inventory. And that is a key driver of value in this case that involves maybe \$300 million. So it's -- of our potential deficiency, \$300 million was picked up on this item, this 15 percent discount

Pg 24 of 333 Page 24 1 from book value for the inventory. And that's all 2 predicated, as the slide deck I had showed you, it's all predicated on Mr. Griffith's reading of the APA or 3 alternatively his reading of negotiations -- confidential 4 5 negotiations. Communications went back and forth between 6 the parties basically two or three weeks before the final 7 bid was made. And that -- all said they were not bids, that 8 they were not intents to bid, and they were basically 9 designed to -- I'm not going to get into the commentary, but 10 none of them related to the actual bid that was actually 11 accepted by the (indiscernible), and none of them relate to 12 the APA. 13 So the question is can they rely on that evidence 14 at all and that they properly interpreted the APA at all. 15 And that's a purely legal question I think for Your Honor. 16 And we've teed it up in the slide deck, which is basically -17 - if you look at --18 THE COURT: Okay, so I understand that point. I think that first of all, are all the documents that -- I 19 think I know the answer to this. But are all the documents 20 21 that Mr. Griffith refers to in his declarations in the

record as admitted exhibit?

MR. MOLONEY: Subject to this motion.

THE COURT: Well --

MR. GENENDER: No, that's not true.

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Page 25 1 THE COURT: I mean, I have a bunch of agreed 2 exhibit books. MR. GENENDER: Many of them are, Your Honor. Some 3 of the backup, some of the actual underlying records are 4 5 attached to his most recent declaration but are not yet --6 THE COURT: Okay. Is that the parol evidence? 7 MR. GENENDER: No, no. 8 THE COURT: No? 9 MR. GENENDER: Those are company records -- those 10 are -- those are company records that he used to rely upon 11 for some of his calculations of expenses. 12 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, in specifically 13 paragraph 5 of his most recent declaration -- paragraphs 15 14 to 16 of his most recent declaration, and from the exhibit 15 list, the exhibits would be Exhibits -- well, the ones 16 (indiscernible) -- the exhibits with the --17 THE COURT: So we're dealing with his second 18 supplemental declaration. 19 MR. MOLONEY: Right --THE COURT: And what paragraphs? I'm sorry. 20 21 MR. MOLONEY: Paragraphs five to ten and 15 and 22 I think you already ruled on 15 to 16, so we're going to talk about five to ten. 23 24 THE COURT: So eight refers to an ESL 25 presentation.

Page 26 1 MR. MOLONEY: Right. And then these are joint 2 exhibit. 3 THE COURT: And nine is also. 4 MR. MOLONEY: Right. 5 THE COURT: The rest -- the other paragraphs just 6 refer to the outside purchase agreement. 7 MR. MOLONEY: Correct, which we had no issue with. 8 THE COURT: Okay, so --9 MR. MOLONEY: It's Exhibit 8 and Exhibit 9. 10 THE COURT: But those two ESL presentations are 11 not yet in the record. 12 MR. MOLONEY: Correct. Or they're in the record 13 subject to this motion, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Subject to objection. 15 MR. GENENDER: Actually, my understanding is they 16 were a part -- they were admitted as jointly admitted. 17 THE COURT: Well, that was my question. 18 MR. GENENDER: They were. And that's what I was 19 confirming. They absolutely are. (indiscernible). 20 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, we agreed and put a 21 footnote at the beginning of this thing of what we submitted 22 as joint exhibits which says -- and this was discussed. 23 "The parties reserve the right to argue the relevance of any 24 joint exhibit and to argue the joint exhibit is improper 25 parol evidence." What could be more clear than -- and this

Page 27 1 (indiscernible) was negotiated and agreed for exactly this 2 purpose, so this would not happen. THE COURT: Right. So that I'll deal with when 3 he's on the stand. I don't think I need to deal with this 4 5 on this point on motion in limine. 6 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I don't --7 THE COURT: I want to understand the Debtor's argument and how it ties into the APA. If it completely is 8 9 based on the APA, then I will grant your motion because the 10 APA speaks for itself. 11 MR. MOLONEY: Right. But the APA also has --THE COURT: If it's basically more of like a 12 context argument, then I might, depending on the basis for 13 14 your objection at that point, hear your objection as to 15 relevance and the like. But --16 MR. MOLONEY: Well, the APA does have a complete 17 agreement which prohibits exactly --THE COURT: Well, no, but --18 MR. MOLONEY: -- going into making assumptions. 19 20 THE COURT: This isn't -- that's why I say if 21 they're relying on just saying that the APA speaks for 22 itself, then I don't need -- then I can't hear the parol 23 evidence. 24 MR. MOLONEY: But their argument is, Your Honor, 25 at bottom is this was sold under the APA to us for 85 cents,

Page 28 1 the inventory. And the APA says --2 THE COURT: But if that's -- that may well be the 3 case when they get them on the stand. And I've heard their 4 overall argument. To me it's a little opaque at this point. 5 You may be right, in which case I won't admit it, those two 6 exhibit. 7 MR. MOLONEY: Thank you, Your Honor. 8 THE COURT: Okay. Okay. So I'm assuming we're 9 going to go ahead with the 507(b) issue first where the 10 second lien creditors have the burden of proof. So I think 11 it's their time to start. 12 MR. MOLONEY: Yes, Your Honor. And we would call 13 Mr. Schulte to the stand. 14 THE COURT: Okay. Come up here, sir. Just have a 15 seat over there. 16 MR. SCHULTE: Morning. 17 THE COURT: Morning. Would you raise your right 18 hand, please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the 19 whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? 20 MR. SCHULTE: Yes, sir. 21 THE COURT: Okay. And it's S-c-h-u-l-t-e? 22 MR. SCHULTE: Correct. 23 THE COURT: Okay. So Mr. Schulte, you have 24 provided an expert report in this case. It actually appears 25 twice in the exhibit book as it pertains to both of the

Page 29 motions before me on a consolidated basis. But it's dated -- maybe it's not dated. In any event, you're familiar with that expert report, correct? MR. SCHULTE: Yes, sir. THE COURT: And sitting here today, you understand that this would be your direct testimony in these matters. Is there anything in --MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, do you have the declaration which is Tab 5 -- which is -- that should be -that should be what you have in front of you, declaration of Mr. Schulte. THE COURT: It's his report, right? MR. MOLONEY: It's broader than the report. THE COURT: Okay. I'll get to that in a second. MR. MOLONEY: It's attached to the report. But you should have the entire I think declaration --THE COURT: As far as the expert report is concerned which is referred to in your declaration, sitting here today, would continue to be your expert testimony in this case? MR. SCHULTE: Yes. I filed an amended report which cleared up some really insignificant factual changes. THE COURT: So except for those changes. MR. SCHULTE: Yes. THE COURT: And you would stand by that. And then

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Page 30 1 as far as your declaration is concerned, that would also 2 continue to be your testimony on direct in this case? Is 3 there anything you wish to change in that? 4 MR. SCHULTE: Yes, sir. 5 THE COURT: I'm just getting that in front of me. 6 All right. So --7 MR. MOLONEY: Can I ask one housekeeping question? Just for ease of Your Honor, it may make sense for them to 8 9 cross him on all issues including 506(c). Rather than have him come back again, I would think -- but we'll do whatever 10 11 Your Honor thinks makes sense. 12 THE COURT: That's right. So you can go ahead 13 with cross. 14 MR. GENENDER: Absolutely, Your Honor. That's how 15 we were planning to proceed. 16 Your Honor, I have a notebook for the Court and 17 for the witness, for this witness. 18 THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: (indiscernible)? 19 20 THE COURT: Sure. 21 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF DAVID SCHULTE 22 BY MR. GENENDER: 23 Good morning, Mr. Schulte. 24 Good morning. 25 You have in front of you a notebook that has some

Page 31 1 documents in it. And you should also have a very skinny 2 document that has -- it's entitled Debtor's 507(b), July 23 3 Hearing Demonstratives and Excerpts. Do you have that as well? 4 5 I have both. Okay, thank you very much. Mr. Schulte, this is your 6 7 first engagement that has involved an analysis of 507(b) claims, correct? 8 9 That is correct. 10 This is your first engagement that has involved an 11 analysis of 506(c) surcharges, correct? 12 That is correct. You issued a report on behalf of ESL on June 18th, 13 2019, correct? 14 I don't have the date in front of me, but I will take 15 16 your word for it. 17 Thank you very much. You were deposed on June 19th, 18 early Saturday morning. Do you recall that? I remember. 19 20 Q Okay. And you amended your report on July 18th, 2019, 21 last Thursday, correct? 22 That's correct. Α 23 Your analysis in both reports applies two methodologies, one to go-forward inventory and a second 24 25 different methodology to the GOB stores, correct?

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- 1 A That is correct.
- 2 Q And looking at -- if you look in the notebook,
- 3 Paragraph 30 of your declaration, if you can get there,
- 4 please. I'm sorry, Page 30 I should say. I'm looking at an
- 5 ECF number at the top.
- 6 A Are we talking 30 of 71?
- 7 Q Yes. Yes, 30 of 71. Thank you. Do you have that in
- 8 front of you?
- 9 A I do.
- 10 Q And that's what's reflected there, is that right? You
- 11 have a book value for -- you show a book value -- actually,
- 12 turn to Page 31 of your report. You show a book value for
- 13 go-forward stores of 2.073 billion. Do you see that?
- 14 A I'm not sure exactly what you're directing me to.
- 15 Q Upper-right-hand corner, Page 31 of 71, in a box. The
- 16 page numbers are in the middle top center of each page, Mr.
- 17 | Schulte. 31 of 71.
- 18 A Thank you.
- 19 Q You bet. Let me know when you're there.
- 20 A Yes, sir.
- 21 Q You use book value for go-forward stores and net retail
- value for the GOB stores, is that right?
- 23 A That is correct.
- 24 Q Your original report in June miscalculated the starting
- values for these values for these numbers, which you

Page 32

Page 33 1 corrected last week. Is that right? 2 Well, Excel did it. I didn't do it. So it was Excel's fault? 3 4 Yes. Α 5 In other words, it was corrected by you last 6 week? 7 Α That is correct. Okay. I don't get to examine Excel. You're the best 8 9 I've got. Okay? 10 Yeah, I'm happy to fill in. 11 Okay. For go-forward inventory, the number you use, 2.074 billion rounded, is the book value of all inventory 12 13 less the GOB inventory, is that right? 14 Yes, sir. Α 15 And while you considered various approaches, you 16 applied the book value to the go-forward stores rather than 17 the net retail value because, as you put it, the book value 18 was the most conservative approach. Is that right? 19 That was one reason. 20 Q Okay. But you report on Page 30 actually says -- the 21 page before, the second paragraph on the bottom, "Because it 22 is the most conservative approach." Do you see that? 23 Yes, I do. Α 24 Those are your words, right? 25 You're ignoring the rest of what I wrote, but Yes.

Page 34 1 yes. 2 To calculate net retail value, you applied a 0.7 Okay. percent 4 wall EBITDA margin. Is that right? 3 4 Yes, sir. Α 5 And that resulted in a net value of inventory of 2.088 6 billion? 7 Α That is correct. 8 Which is \$14 million higher than your book value, 9 correct? 10 In round numbers, yes. 11 And is it fair to say that the 4 wall EBITDA margin 0 does not include corporate overhead? 12 13 That is correct. Α Is it also fair to say that if corporate overhead were 14 15 included, the \$14 million difference between the net retail 16 value and the book value would be erased? 17 I don't know exactly how you're doing that. 18 Well, you'd agree that corporate overhead would be more than \$14 million, wouldn't it? 19 20 You're conflating a number of things in getting there. 21 Well, is your conclusion that the book value is the 22 most conservative approach relies on your assumption that it's appropriate to exclude corporate overhead from your 23 calculation of net retail proceeds. Is that right? 24 25

Not really.

Α

- Q Your figure that you're relying upon --
- 2 A What I'm saying is corporate overhead has been
- 3 contributed to by the retail value of the inventory.
- 4 Q Mr. Schulte, I'm going to ask you to look at, in your
- notebook, Paragraph 10 of the common brief that the parties
- 6 filed last week. And that is going to be -- bear with me.
- 7 It's going to be the tab that says 4570 in the book, which
- 8 is the docket number.
- 9 A It's the one where you have highlighted some things in
- 10 yellow?

- 11 Q Yes, it is. It absolutely is. You're in Paragraph 10
- 12 on Page -- Paragraph 10 on Page 10 of that brief. Do you
- 13 see the highlighted language where it says, "Because the
- 14 gross profits generally from inventory sales, which the
- Debtor's analysis ignores, funded the cost of achieving a
- 16 return slightly higher than the inventory book value, the
- 17 Debtor's book value already takes into consideration all of
- 18 the direct costs necessary to sell and maintain the
- 19 inventory during these cases." Do you see that statement by
- 20 the second lienholders?
- 21 A It takes into account, yes. Because these goods are
- 22 sold at a profit.
- 23 Q And if you look, sir, at Paragraph 35 of your
- 24 declaration, which is Page 16 of 71 in the document we were
- 25 just in a moment ago.

Page 36 1 My declaration, got it. Hold on. 2 In Paragraph 35 on Page 16 of 71 you state, "As indicated above, my calculations already take into 3 4 consideration all of the direct costs necessary to sell and 5 maintain the inventory during the bankruptcy cases, 6 including store-level employee payroll, rent, utility, and 7 telephone expenses, advertising, and security services." Do 8 you see that? 9 Which paragraph? In 16 of 71 --The second sentence of Paragraph 35. 10 11 Yes. Α 12 And you previously testified that the book value does 13 not include any of the 4 wall costs of the go-forward 14 stores, correct? 15 No. 16 You have your deposition in front of you and the -- the 17 notebook in front of you. If you can turn to your 18 deposition to Page 100. Do you have Page 100 in the 19 deposition in front of you? Line 6? 20 Yes. 21 Okay. My question, "That book value does not include 22 any 4 wall costs of those stores, correct?" What's your 23 answer? Well my answer is it effectively does. It isn't 24 25 arrived at that way when it's reported.

Page 37 1 Well, Mr. Schulte, respectfully, I'm just asking you to 2 read the answer in the deposition. 3 All right. My answer says, "That is correct." Α 4 And then I say, question, "It does not include 5 corporate overhead, correct?" And your answer is? 6 "Correct." 7 Question. "And using book value does not account for the costs associated with selling the inventory, correct?" 8 9 Could you read your answer, please? 10 Α Again --11 Can you read your answer, please? 12 I will read to you the answer here, but it's a very 13 incomplete question. The answer says, "Correct." 14 MR. MOLONEY: But continue to read the whole 15 answer. 16 MR. SCHULTE: I'm sorry? 17 MR. MOLONEY: Read the whole answer. 18 Mr. Schulte, I'm happy for you to read the whole answer. I'm not hiding a thing. 19 20 I've got it. This is replying to --21 Mr. Schulte, I'm just asking you to read the answer to 22 the question on Line 16. "Correct. The accounting convention is the inventory 23 as recorded as the lower of costs for realizable value." 24 Mr. Schulte, rent and utilities -- are you saying rent 25

Page 38 1 and utilities aren't 4 wall costs? 2 They are. You previously testified that book value does not 3 4 account for the costs associated with selling the inventory, 5 correct? 6 Not explicitly unless there's a profit. 7 And it doesn't include corporate overhead. We've established that, right? 8 9 Yes. 10 You also testified that you did not know if book value 11 accounts for the costs associated with storing the 12 inventory, correct? 13 I definitely answer that way. 14 That you don't know. 15 That is correct. 16 The book value includes \$300 million of ineligible 17 inventory that's not included in the borrowing base 18 certificate, correct? I didn't spent much time on the borrowing base. 19 20 Q That was my next question. If you can turn to the 21 smaller notebook, Mr. Schulte, the tab that says Borrowing 22 Base Certificate. 23 Α Yes. 24 All right. This is part of -- I believe it's Exhibit 25 5, Joint Exhibit 3 that's in evidence. It's just Page 3 of

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- 1 that document. It says -- do you see in the lower-right-
- 2 hand corner it says 3 of 35?
- Three of 35? 3 Α
- 4 And you see there's a total stock price ledger of
- 5 \$2.69 billion and a net eligible inventory number of \$2.391
- 6 billion. Do you see that?
- 7 Α Your excitement is exceeding my ability to turn pages.
- I'll try and contain myself. 8
- 9 Borrowing base certificate starts for me on Page 4 of
- 10 36.
- 11 Yes, at the top. That's right, on the top. Yes. Q
- 12 So when you said Page 3 you were just kidding.
- 13 I was looking in the lower-right-hand corner.
- 14 Ah, yes, sir.
- 15 Do you see the total stock ledger inventory figure and
- 16 the net eligible inventory figure and the fact that the
- 17 latter is about \$300 million less?
- 18 Α Yes.
- You testified in your June 29th deposition, 11 days 19
- 20 after issuing your opinion in this case, that that was the
- 21 first time you'd seen this borrowing base certificate,
- 22 correct?
- If that's what I said. I've seen it since. 23
- 24 And that was the first time you saw it, correct?
- 25 I think so.

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Pg 40 of 333 Page 40 1 You didn't consider the fair market value paid for the 2 second lien collateral as part of the February sale in this 3 case, did you? 4 Would you ask that again? 5 Sure. You didn't consider the fair market value paid 6 by the buyers for the second lien collateral as part of the 7 February 2019 sale, correct? 8 Well, there was nothing in the asset purchase agreement 9 that delineated the value of the inventory. 10 Did you perform an analysis of the fair market value of 11 the sale of the -- excuse me. Did you perform any analysis of the fair market value of the second lien collateral sold 12 13 as part of the going concern sale in February 2019? 14 Yes, of course. That's the whole of my opinion, or a 15 good part of it. 16 What analysis did you perform of the value of the 17 second lien collateral as a -- that was sold in the February 2019 sale? 18 Can I go back to the source materials? 19 20 Well, I'm just asking if you performed an analysis of 21 the value --22 Yes. We actually -- yes, sir. 23 -- of that collateral on -- as of the sale date, 24 February, 2019?

As of the sale date?

Pg 41 of 333 Page 41 1 O Yes. 2 Of the petition date, yes. Of the sale date, I don't know that it was specifically done. 3 Well, we're dealing with two dates. There's the 4 petition date, October 15, 2018, and the sale date, which I 5 6 believe is February 11, 2019. Did you perform a fair market 7 analysis of the value of the 2L collateral as of February 8 11, 2019? Because if you have, I haven't seen it. 9 I don't know that I did. 10 You didn't did you? 11 I don't know that I did. 12 You can't recall one, can you? 13 That's correct. Α 14 Did you perform a fair market value analysis of the 15 value of the second lien collateral as of the petition date, 16 October 15, 2018? 17 Α Yes. And using fair market value? 18 That's what the report is about. It's imprecise 19 because there were no -- well, the backup material was dated 20 21 a few days different from the petition date. We have on the 22 petition date the Debtor's declaration of what its higher 23 inventory was using the book value. In valuing -- I want to now talk about the GOB store 24

inventory valuation, which is also on Page 30 of your

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- declaration. Page 30 of 71, if we can get there. Here you
- 2 applied the net retail value approach, correct? Mr.
- 3 Schulte, you've got to go to the other notebook, the larger
- 4 notebook. It's in your declaration. It's the tab before
- 5 that, sir.
- 6 A Thirty of 71.
- 7 Q Yes, sir.
- 8 A I have it.
- 9 Q And before I ask you about that, Mr. Schulte, let me
- 10 take one step back and ask you a different question. Mr.
- 11 | Schulte, did you do any independent analysis to vet any of
- 12 the appraisals upon which you relied in offering any
- opinions as to the value of the second lien collateral as of
- 14 | the petition date?
- 15 A By vetting do you mean did we go out and take a full
- 16 physical inventory? No.
- 17 Q That would be -- yeah. What did you do to verify the
- 18 accuracy or independently confirm that the appraisals upon
- 19 which you replied were accurate?
- 20 A The -- first of all, we didn't really rely much if at
- 21 all on other people's reports on Tiger or Abacus or
- 22 whatever. We relied on the Debtor's general ledger more
- 23 than anything else.
- 24 Q You're on Page 30 or 71 of your declaration. For the
- 25 GOB stores, you took a book value of the GOB inventory and

Pg 43 of 333 Page 43 1 applied a 95.6 percent net recovery percentage to it. Is 2 that right? 3 Α Yes. And that 95.6 percent does not include any corporate 4 5 overhead, only store level costs. Correct? 6 Α Yes. 7 And if I go to Page 31 where you have those two -- did you make any adjustment to the book value of the go-forward 8 9 store inventory in coming up with your valuation of the 10 collateral? 11 Well, we explored several ways to adjust it. In the end we started with Mr. Griffith's number. 12 13 Okay. Mr. Griffith you understand applied a fair O market value, the 85 percent number, to the --14 No, that's different. That's a different point. 15 16 Let me finish my question. Okay? 17 Okay. Α You understand Mr. Griffith took -- may have started 18 with a similar number to you, but he applied a fair market 19 20 value percentage of 85 percent to that number. Correct? 21 He used the number of 85 percent as a proxy for fair 22 market value. 23 Okay. And you understand that -- but you did not use any proxy for fair market value in terms of a discount of 24

the percentage of the book value of go-forward stores,

Page 44 1 correct? 2 Well, that's not quite right. What discount did you take? 3 Well, we used the resulting profitability of the 4 5 If you notice, there are three different approaches 6 we took, if I may, to the value of the inventory. We used a 7 gross retail approach, a net retail approach, and book 8 value. In book value for the going-forward stores, we made 9 no adjustment. Thank you. Mr. Griffith adjusted 85 -- took a 15 10 11 percent reduction. You took a zero percent reduction. 12 Correct? 13 That's correct. 14 And on that amount of inventory, that creates a 15 disparity just on that, between what you did and what Mr. 16 Griffith did, of about \$375 million, doesn't it? 17 It's a substantial number. 18 \$375 million approximately, right? I never quantified it that tight, but yes, I think 19 20 that's about right. All right, thank you. You included in your -- let me 21 22 just step ahead. Mr. Schulte, you come up with a total collateral value for the second liens of \$2.928 billion. 23 24 that right? 25 Α Yes, sir.

Page 45 1 And that includes not just what we went through with 2 GOB inventory and go-forward stores adjusted only for the 3 95.6 percent to the GOB sales -- GOB stores. That portion was approximately 2.664 billion, correct? 4 5 The inventory number within that is 2.664. 6 Yes. And your -- and then you added to that credit 7 card receivables, cash, scripts, and pharmacy receivables, 8 is that correct? 9 And cash. 10 Yes, I said cash. 11 Yes, sir. Α 12 Okay. And your -- what is your basis to include cash, scripts, and pharmacy receivables as 2L collateral? 13 14 Well, I was instructed by counsel about the status of 15 those asset accounts in the security agreement, and I read 16 the security agreement. And I know that cash is not 17 explicitly included in the second lien collateral at all. It is in the first lien collateral. And the other items are 18 either proceeds of second lien collateral or are 19 20 specifically included. 21 Mr. Schulte, you testified in your deposition that it 22 was not your task to go through and either enumerate or include or exclude items that were in the second 23 24 lienholder's collateral package, correct? 25 Well, the work necessarily includes -- that's a

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- 1 judgement about what counts. And the judgement was informed
- 2 by the advice of counsel.
- 3 Q Did you do anything independent to determine, other
- 4 than take counsel's word, whether -- to determine whether
- 5 scripts, pharmacy receivables, and cash should be part of
- 6 the 2L collateral package?
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q Thank you. And you have not -- you testified you have
- 9 not studied the underlying security or credit agreements,
- 10 | correct?
- 11 A I've read the security agreement.
- 12 Q Yes. But you said you certainly had not studied it,
- 13 correct?
- 14 A I don't know what difference the word read and studied
- 15 makes, but if it makes you happy.
- 16 Q I'm just looking at your testimony. I asked you, "Have
- 17 you studied them?" And you answered no.
- 18 A At that point --
- 19 Q Do you recall that?
- 20 A At that point I had not read or studied the security
- 21 agreement. I have since.
- 22 Q Okay. The number you add for credit card receivables
- 23 was not the number that is contained in the borrowing base
- 24 certificate, correct?
- 25 A That might well be.

Pg 47 of 333 Page 47 1 Well, the number on the borrowing base certificate, if 2 you can turn to it, it's \$54.8 million. 3 Yeah, well, there are -- yes. As with any borrowing basis, there are exclusions. 4 The number on the borrowing base certificate, which 5 6 also includes the total stock ledger book value amount that 7 you started with --8 Yes. 9 -- the number is 54.8 million. And you use 64.2 10 million, a difference of 9.4 million, correct? 11 The documents have different purposes, but yes. 12 Thank you. So just to address this, Mr. Schulte, if 13 you add it up, that took \$9.4 million, the difference 14 between the number you used for credit card receivables and 15 the number on the borrowing base certificate, and then added 16 up the figures you used for cash, scripts, and pharmacy 17 receivables, that adds up to a number in excess of \$200 million, correct? 18 19 Okay. 20 If I represented to you that it's \$209.6 million, do 21 you have any basis to disagree with me? 22 I would trust you. Thank you. If you will look in the skinny little 23 notebook at the very first demonstrative, it says 507(b) 24

Diminution Calculations. Do you have that page in front of

Pq 48 of 333 Page 48 1 you? 2 I have the demonstratives. No. Okay. If you will turn to the very first tab that says 3 507(b) Chart. 4 5 Yes, sir. 6 Okay? And there's a line in there for you. The second 7 one in. Do you see that? 8 Α Yes. 9 And do you see your total collateral number in the 10 middle of the page, the 2.928 billion? 11 Yes, sir. Α 12 And you see that it's approximately \$595 million more 13 than Mr. Griffith's calculation, correct? 14 Yes, I do. Α 15 And would you agree with me that we just went through 16 the bases for those differences, meaning the \$209.6 million 17 of items you included in 2L collateral that he did not and 18 the fact you didn't make an adjustment to the value of the 19 inventory along the lines of what Mr. Griffith did. Would 20 you agree with those, the two bases for that \$595 million 21 difference? 22 Almost. We did make a one percent adjustment. A one percent adjustment. I agree. You're right, sir. 23 24 You made a 95.6 -- you made a 4.4 percent adjustment on the

\$617 million number and a zero percent adjustment on the --

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- 1 A Yes, I certainly agree with you that the 85 percent
- 2 number has no status in our work.
- 3 Q Thank you. Mr. Schulte, are you offering an opinion as
- 4 to whether the first lien debt includes approximately \$395
- 5 million of letters of credit?
- 6 A Well, you said first lien debt?
- 7 Q Let me ask you, are you offering an opinion as to
- 8 whether the approximately \$395 million of the two letters of
- 9 credit would count as senior debt?
- 10 A If it was funded, I would agree.
- 11 Q You're offering that opinion that since they weren't
- 12 funded, they shouldn't count as part of the 1L debt.
- 13 A Except for \$9 million that was funded.
- 14 Q Okay. And what is your basis for drawing a distinction
- as to whether -- based on whether it's funded or not?
- 16 A If the company went with a wheelbarrow full of cash to
- 17 Citibank or whoever had written the letter of credit and
- 18 said here is money to pay you back, they might have gotten a
- 19 toaster, but they would have not gotten any other kind of
- 20 response. The bank would have said you don't owe me this.
- 21 Q Mr. Schulte, are you aware that the \$271 million letter
- of credit was cash collateralized by ESL?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q Are you aware --
- 25 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, that's not true. In

Pg 50 of 333 Page 50 1 part we were. (indiscernible). 2 THE COURT: You could --3 The second lienholders I should -- ESL and Cyrus. I know that there was cash collateral posted, and I 4 think it was by ESL and Cyrus, I think. 5 6 And are you aware that as to the 1L letter of credit 7 facility for \$123.8 million that there was a block on 8 borrowing available under the ABL for that amount? 9 I don't know specifically about that. My analysis of 10 the LLCs went only as far as the amount that was actually 11 owed. Contingent amounts and (indiscernible) amounts were 12 not counted. 13 Did you consider any -- the treatment of those two 14 letters of credit under the sale transaction under the APA? 15 Not particularly because they didn't count. 16 Did you consider the fact that they were -- that they 17 formed \$395 million of the \$5.2 billion purchase price? 18 Α Yes. And yet you don't consider them to be 1L debt? 19 It was not live debt. It was the relief of a 20 21 contingent obligation. 22 Mr. Schulte, do you have in the notebook in front of you Joint Exhibits 8 and 9? At the very back. 23 24 I'm not sure. What tab is it? What is the tab? Oh,

am I in the wrong notebook? Oh, sorry.

Page 51 1 It's actually in the big notebook. It's in the big 2 notebook at the very end. It should say -- the document 3 should say JX-8 in the lower-right-hand corner. (indiscernible). Mr. Schulte --4 5 Are you talking about -- excuse me. Let me just get it 6 straight that we're on the same document. THE COURT: It's in the spiral one. 7 8 MR. GENENDER: It's in the spiral one. 9 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, we object to reference 10 to these documents on the grounds of it's parol evidence, it 11 should not be considered. 12 THE COURT: Okay. What is your response on that? 13 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I'm -- my question is 14 just to ask if he relied on the documents. That's all I 15 want to find out. 16 THE COURT: All right, that's fair. 17 Let's use the --Q 18 Are you on the ESL bid presentation? Is that your document? 19 20 Q Yes. Have you --21 I know about this, yes. 22 Does it form any basis for your opinions in this case? Q 23 Α No. 24 Okay. What about the next document, Joint Exhibit 9, does it form any basis for your opinion in this case? 25

Page 52 1 No. 2 Did you consider any aspect of these documents, including the references to the two letters of credit that I 3 4 just asked you about? No. Well, excuse me, did I consider? Yes, I 5 6 considered, and yes, I rejected all of that stuff for the 7 reason that I said, namely these were not live obligations 8 in the ESL bid. It's an illustration that's a talking 9 point. And the asset purchase agreement is in fact the 10 deal. 11 Did you refer to the treatment to see how either of those lines of credit were treated in the actual APA? 12 13 Yes, I looked at the sections of the APA, yes. 14 And if you will take a look at the small notebook, the 15 little bound notebook in front of you. 16 You've given me three, so let's not do it by size. 17 If you can turn to the last tab. It says JX-34. 18 There's an excerpt from the APA. Sir, it's in the small notebook in front of you, the bound notebook. Last tab, it 19 20 says JX-34. Do you have that? 21 Α JX-034. 22 Yes, sir. And it's an excerpt --Page 42 of 1120? 23 24 Yeah, this is a three-page excerpt from the APA. 25 have that in front of you?

Pg 53 of 333 Page 53 1 I do. 2 All right. Do you see that on page 42 of 120 JX-34-125, there's a definition for LC facility consideration? 3 4 Α Yes. And it -- and that includes a definition that 5 6 references the Citi LC facility of two -- and it says, "but 7 in no event with respect to a principal amount of greater 8 than \$271 million." Do you see that, in the parenthetical? 9 Yes. 10 You'll turn to the next page which in the document 11 skips from -- we were just on Page 21 of the APA; now we're 12 going to Page 51 of the APA. Do you have that page in front 13 of you? 14 I do. 15 You see the cash component of \$1.408 billion 16 highlighted? 17 Yes, sir. You understand that includes the ABL? 18 19 MR. FOX: Objection, Your Honor. The document 20 speaks for itself. 21 THE COURT: Well, he did testify he considered 22 this as part of his analysis, so I think it's fair game. 23 Well, the ABL was discharged as part of this, so yes. 24 Okay. Do you know, Mr. Schulte, that the \$123.8 25 million credit facility was rolled into any aspect of

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- 1 Section 3.1 of the APA?
- 2 A Yes, it was an assumed liability.
- 3 Q Thank you. And if you turn to Page 52, the next page,
- 4 under Section 3.1(c) -- I'm sorry, under 3.1(f), you'll see
- 5 there's a specific demarcation item for the LC facility
- 6 consideration. Do you see that?
- 7 A I do.
- 8 Q Thank you. You didn't do a calculation for any post-
- 9 petition interest that would be a 1L obligation, did you?
- 10 A Not explicitly, no.
- 11 Q Did you do one implicitly?
- 12 A I don't (indiscernible). We did not specifically take
- 13 into account post-petition interest.
- 14 Q And you're not disputing that there was post-petition
- 15 interest associated with 1L debt --
- 16 A No. I'm saying it was irrelevant to the work we did.
- 17 Q Can I finish my question?
- 18 A Sure.
- 19 Q You're not disputing that there was 1L -- that there
- 20 was post-petition interest on 1L debt from October --
- 21 A I do not dispute that.
- 22 Q And you didn't calculate it, did you?
- 23 A No.
- 24 Q And you don't have a basis to refute the \$34 million
- 25 calculation that Mr. Griffith did, do you?

Page 54

Pg 55 of 333 Page 55 1 I'm sorry; give me that one again. 2 You don't have any basis to dispute or refute the \$34 3 million calculation that Mr. Griffith did for post-petition interest? 4 5 Post-petition interest? 6 That's correct. Q 7 Only to say that it's irrelevant to the work we did. But you can't dispute the figure, can you? 8 9 Α No. 10 Mr. Schulte, if you'll look back at the 507(b) chart, 11 that's the first page of the spiral notebook. You see that 12 you don't include in 1L the 2Letters of credit and the \$34 13 million of first lien interest. Is that right? 14 I see that. Α And those add up to \$429 million. Would you accept 15 16 that representation? 17 I would accept that representation. 18 Thank you. I want to talk for a minute about 506(c) surcharges. Are you -- do you agree, Mr. Schulte, that at 19 20 all times ESL favored a going concern sale in this case? 21 Correct? 22 I'm informed that that was the case. 23 You testified that ESL very much wanted to see a going concern sale, correct? 24

Yes.

Α

Pg 56 of 333 Page 56 1 You'd also agree that ESL tried very hard not to have a 2 full-scale liquidation, correct? 3 Α Yes. 4 And you previously testified that you have not done an 5 analysis of any of the expenses that the Debtors incurred 6 between December 28th, which is when ESL submitted its first 7 bid and February 11th, 2019, which is the day that the sale 8 closed, correct? 9 Which expenses are you talking about? 10 Any expenses that the Debtors incurred in furtherance of the going concern sale. 11 12 We did not. We did not do that. 13 And you didn't do -- you understand Mr. Griffith did do a calculation of those expenses? 14 15 I've seen that. 16 And you didn't -- you don't have a basis to disagree 17 with his calculations of expenses incurred between January 17th, the day the APA was signed, and February 11th, the day 18 the transaction closed, correct? 19 20 As I did, we did not evaluate that. 21 Or any other period of time relevant to this case, 22 correct? 23 Oh, no, that's not right. 24 Okay, so December 28th to February 11th, you didn't do

a calculation of that period of time?

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- 1 Not during that -- no, not on that specific period of
- 2 time.
- 3 And you didn't do one for the corresponding time Mr.
- Griffith did from January 17th to February 11th, correct? 4
- 5 That's correct.
- 6 Want to go back. Mr. Schulte, is it your position that
- 7 there were no expenses incurred by the Debtors that were
- reasonable and necessary and for the primary benefit of ESL 8
- 9 in connection with the going concern sale? Is that your
- 10 testimony?
- 11 I don't -- no, I would not say that.
- 12 Okay. Good. You'd agree there are expenses incurred
- by the Debtors in furtherance of the going concern sale that 13
- 14 were the primary benefit of ESL and were reasonable and
- 15 necessary. Is that right?
- 16 I don't think it's possible to know exactly what
- 17 everyone at the corporate level or with counsel did in
- 18 pursuit of the sale or in pursuit of recovery from second
- 19 lien lenders.
- 20 You don't know that number, do you?
- 21 Α No.
- 22 Would you defer to someone who was involved in the
- 23 operation of the company?
- 24 I wouldn't defer to anyone on the company side on
- 25 this whole question of the charging lien.

Page 58 1 Your client is ESL? 2 My client is Cleary Gottlieb. 3 And you offered a report on behalf of ESL? Q 4 Yes. Α 5 Have you asked anyone -- and you haven't asked anyone 6 at ESL about any expenses incurred in furtherance of the 7 sale by the Debtor --8 I didn't talk to anyone at ESL about anything. 9 Thank you. I want to go back -- so you still have the 10 507(b) charge in front of you? 11 I do. Α 12 All right. So your total 507(b) claim number that you're proffering is \$962.7 million. Do you see that? 13 14 Α Yes. 15 And that is -- you understand the Debtors have a no --16 submitting there's no 507(b) charge, correct? 17 Α Yes. 18 Okay. And they're actual -- the total that Mr. Griffith computes is negative \$60 million. Do you see that? 19 20 Yes, I do. 21 So there's about a \$1,200,000,000 difference between 22 your number and Mr. Griffith's number, correct? 23 Α Yes. 24 And are the components of that that we've gone through 25 in your testimony, Mr. Schulte, the fact you didn't make a

Page 59 1 fair market value adjustment to the inventory? 2 No. Α Well --3 Q 4 I didn't accept 85 cents. 5 Okay. You made a 1 percent adjustment; he made a 15 6 percent adjustment. 7 Α Yes. Is that right? 8 9 Α Yes. 10 That makes up about \$375 million of the difference, 11 right? 12 Yes. And the treatment of letters of credit, is the 13 other big piece. 14 Well, let me go in my order, okay? 15 Sure. 16 We're almost done. Thank you. 17 Okay. Α 18 \$375 million for the fact you made a 1 percent -- only a 1 percent adjustment, correct? 19 20 Α Yes. 21 \$210 million -- 209.6, because you included the items 22 you did as 2L collateral that we talked about, right? 23 Α Yes. 24 Cash, scripts, pharmacy receivables, and use the higher credit card receivable number, correct? 25

Page 60 1 That's a dispute between us, yes. 2 Yes. Plus \$395 million of letters of credit that you 0 3 didn't include as 1L debt, correct? 4 Α Yes. 5 Plus \$34 million of 1L interest that you didn't 6 include, correct? 7 Α Correct. That adds up to the difference between your number of 8 9 \$962.7 million and Mr. Griffith's number of negative \$60 10 million? 11 Yes. Α 12 MR. GENENDER: Thank you. Pass the witness. 13 Thank you, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Okay. Let me just ask one question. 15 It's probably better to ask it now. Mr. Schulte on -- you 16 saw that chart there in front of you, the 507 calculation, 17 and you see there's a item there of \$115.5 million for cash? 18 MR. SCHULTE: Yes. THE COURT: You're familiar with the concept of 19 20 tracing, where you trace cash to a particular asset that's 21 sold? 22 MR. SCHULTE: I'm roughly familiar with it, Your 23 Honor. 24 THE COURT: Did you do any tracing analysis? 25 MR. SCHULTE: No. We actually assumed that away.

Page 61 1 THE COURT: Okay. 2 MR. SCHULTE: The -- may I continue? 3 THE COURT: Sure. MR. SCHULTE: Our analysis by assumption said that 4 5 the first thing creditors -- it's a much more global kind of 6 a subtraction. We have value, we had first lien obligations 7 8 THE COURT: I -- maybe my question was not clear 9 enough. Did you trace the cash or do analysis to trace the 10 cash to the second lien collateral that you were told by 11 constituted the second lien collateral? 12 MR. SCHULTE: Not explicitly, no. We looked at 13 the aggregate of the first lien obligations, deducted from the -- what we concluded was the value of the collateral and 14 15 built into that is the assumption the first lien creditors 16 would use the quickest assets first, which cash is the 17 quickest. And in the -- so there's adding and subtraction. There's a lot of delineation of that 115. 18 19 THE COURT: Okay. 20 MR. SCHULTE: Or tracing, in your parlance. 21 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Go ahead with 22 redirect. 23 MR. MOLONEY: You asked one question I was going 24 to ask, Your Honor. Thank you. 25 THE COURT: Okay.

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	Page 62
1	RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF DAVID SCHULTE
2	BY MR. MOLONEY:
3	Q Could you look at you still have that book in front
4	of you of exhibits, Mr. Schulte
5	A Sure.
6	Q If you go to page to Exhibit Number, looks like,
7	4569 or ECF Number 4569 and to that Page 30 of 71 and 31 of
8	71 which we were looking at before? It's in your report.
9	So it's the it's really the first tab in the book here.
10	A ECF 4570?
11	Q Yeah, and it's Page 30 of 71 and 31 of 71. See that?
12	MAN 1: What page?
13	MR. MOLONEY: It's going to be Page 30 of 71 and
14	31 of 71, which he was asked about on direct.
15	Q Do you have that in front of you, Mr. Schulte?
16	A I'm on a different tab. Hold on.
17	Q It's right in the book of the big black book.
18	A In ECG 4570, I don't
19	Q Yeah
20	A have any pages as high as 71.
21	Q 4569
22	A Aha. I'm sorry
23	Q Page 30 of 71 30 of 71.
24	A Okay. Yes.
25	Q And you recall being asked by Mr. Genender questions

Page 63 1 about the paragraph that appears on Page 30 of 71 which is 2 the last full paragraph on Page 30 of 71 which begins for 3 the go-forward stores. You recall being asked questions 4 about that paragraph? Under number four, summary of inventory --5 6 0 Yes. 7 -- evaluation? The paragraph -- the second paragraph under number 8 9 four? 10 Yes. 11 You were asked a question about your testimony --12 Yes. 13 -- in your report about that you chose the most conservative approach. Can you tell us why you view that as 14 15 most conservative approach for the going concern inventory? 16 Yes. Conceptually, I would prefer the net retail 17 value. But in doing it, it came out so close to the book 18 value, number one. Number two, the number's much more 19 discernible in terms of the book value, fewer assumptions 20 you have to make. And number three, it was lower. For 21 those reasons, we adopted the book value. 22 Was another reason related to replacement value? Q 23 Α Yes. 24 And what was that? 25 The book value derives from inventory purchases and the

Pg 64 of 333 Page 64 prices that have to be paid for inventory. So, yes, it does speak to replacement value. Okay. And can you explain why you chose a different Q number than book value for the going-out-of-business stores? Well, going-out-of-business stores have merchandise that is sold at a discount and relying on the book value to get at some notion of what that inventory was worth would be wildly wrong. And it also happened where the company has closed many hundreds of stores and has considerable experience on the realizations against inventory book value in those going-out-of-business sales. So we relied on their actual experience. So that number, is that based on post-filing experience of the Debtor? Both the gross retail value and the net retail value? Principally, pre-bankruptcy experience. Right. And did you verify that based on the postbankruptcy filing experience? It's a consistent pattern. So they basically have the same returns pre- and postbankruptcy? The company has earned roughly 95 percent of book value in the liquidations of inventory in their closed stores.

Now, before they filed for bankruptcy, had the company

contracted substantially?

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A Oh, yes.

- 2 Q Approximately how many stores had they closed out even
- 3 before they filed for bankruptcy?
- 4 A Well, once upon a time, they had 4,000 and at the time
- of the bankruptcy, it was down to 700-something. There were
- 6 several hundred closed in the last few years before the
- 7 Chapter 11 filing.
- 8 Q So this number reflects the experience over several
- 9 years involving hundreds of stores, correct?
- 10 A That is correct.
- 11 Q Thank you. Now, why did you value the receivables at
- 12 face?
- 13 A The -- this is not a business with a great many
- 14 receivables. The receivables are mainly from credit card
- 15 companies and the credit risk has been accepted by the
- 16 credit card company. The accountants in ordering the
- 17 company statements have accepted the company's accounting
- 18 which treats credit card receivables as cash. They're very
- 19 short term and they don't have credit exposure on them.
- 20 Q And can you explain to us, why did you include
- 21 collateral that was considered excluded under the borrowing
- 22 base certificate within your calculation of \$300 million
- 23 difference that was alluded to by Mr. Genender?
- 24 A Well, they measure different things. The borrowing
- 25 base calculation is something negotiated with the lender and

Pg 66 of 333 Page 66 it has to do with the extent to which the lender is prepared to lend against inventory. It doesn't mean that excluded inventory is worthless. Okay. And how, if at all, did you account for expenses that directly and primarily benefitted the 2L collateral during the case? There are two categories of expenses. The ones that we definitely count are the four wall costs, the costs of operating the stores. What's fuzzier is the costs at the corporate level, Weil Gotshal, for example. Sorry. Or other professionals or other things the company did. We don't have, with any precision, an accounting of those expenditures. We took into account the aggregate of expenditures that the company had but for direct -- primary and direct benefit to the second liens, we paid close attention to the expenses in the stores. Now, for purposes of your analysis of net retail value, did you use the same accounting methodology that the company itself used in deciding whether to the stores were EBITDA positive? Α Yes. And is that -- is there a common name for that form of accounting? Is that so-called four wall accounting?

- 24 Oh, okay. I was going to say, it's called accounting. 25
 - Can you explain to me what is meant by four wall

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Page 67 1 accounting? 2 Well -- and this is common among retailers. measure -- the easiest thing to measure is what are stores 3 spending, right, because each store is separately accounted 4 Its revenues are separately accounted for. Its 5 6 purchases of inventory are allocated to it as it takes them 7 into the store, et cetera. So what is mean by four wall 8 accounting is the profitability of a particular store and 9 retailers use this by way of deciding which stores should be 10 kept, which stores should be closed, et cetera. 11 So looking at, for example, at the chart on Page 31 of 12 71, we're showing basically -- I did a math roughly, but it's over a \$700 million differential between the gross 13 14 retail value and net retail value of the go-forward sales. 15 You see that number? 16 Α Yes. 17 What was that \$700 million used for? That's expense in effect of realizations on second lien 18 19 collateral. Those are in-store expenses. 20 Q So, for example, what expenses are included within that 21 category? Would payroll be picked up? 22 Payroll and utilities. Α Yes. 23 Rent? Q 24 Α Rent. 25 Security?

Q

Page 68 1 Α Yes. 2 Advertising? Q All the normal expenses of running a store. 3 And they're picked up by that differential, right? 4 Q 5 Α Yes. 6 And similarly, for the going-out-of-business store, the 7 delta between 734 and 590, that \$150 million approximately, 8 that, too, would go to those types of expenses, correct? 9 The company -- it shows that as going-out-of-10 business store expenses. 11 Now, in Mr. Griffith's analysis of -- to get to his 12 \$1.4 billion, did he deduct any of this money? 13 I didn't really spend a lot of time on what Mr. 14 Griffith did. I looked at it. I didn't try and duplicate 15 it. 16 Okay. Okay, I'll ask -- we'll have a chance to ask 17 him, so don't worry about it. And I think -- by the way, one more question. Are there other contributors to overhead 18 besides the small delta in profit that is the differential 19 20 between the net retail value for go-forward stores and the 21 book value? Were there other financial contributors within 22 the financial statements of the company? Well, the company doesn't report -- I'm not sure I 23 understand the question. What accounts for the 15 --24 25 No, my question is --

Page 69 1 -- million dollars --2 -- what else was available to satisfy overhead? Were 3 there other resources generated at a store level (indiscernible) --4 5 Well there's a -- yeah, I'm sorry. There's a large 6 category that's not picked up there. Vendor discounts, 7 rebates, and allowances. There's a multi-hundred million 8 dollar category which the company books at the corporate 9 level rather than at the store level. 10 And that money is not included in your net retail 11 value. Is that correct? 12 No. That's exactly right. 13 So that money would be available for corporate 14 overhead? 15 Yes, sir. 16 And are other business that Sears had besides the store 17 business that is reflected on this -- in this report? 18 Α Yes. And what are they? 19 20 Well, they had a variety of store -- of businesses that 21 they were in and none of them were counted in this analysis. 22 And presumably, they contributed to overhead as well? Unless they were losers, in which case (indiscernible) 23 24 drain, but yes. 25 MR. MOLONEY: Thank you. No more questions, Your

Page 70 1 Honor. 2 THE COURT: Okay. Any re-cross? 3 MR. GENENDER: Very briefly, Your Honor. RE-CROSS EXAMINATION OF DAVID SCHULTE 4 5 BY MR. GENENDER: 6 Mr. Schulte, you have your report in front of you, your 7 declaration. You're on Page 30 of 71. Do you have that? 8 Yes, sir. 9 And on Page 31 of 71, the numbers that Mr. Moloney just 10 went through with you, those are the delta between gross 11 retail and book value or net retail, that's as of the 12 petition date, right? 13 Α Yes. 14 Does that take into account expenses that were being 15 incurred in furtherance of a going concern sale post-16 petition? 17 This was done on the petition date. 18 Thank you. So the answer is no to my question, right? Yes. Yes, sir. 19 20 Q Thank you. If you can turn to the previous page, Page 10 -- 29 of 71, Page 10 at the bottom of your report and can 21 22 -- I want to direct your attention. I apologize for the small print, but you're the one that used it. Footnote 20. 23 24 You're citing to -- Footnote 20 goes to your inventory 25 valuation, right?

Page 71 1 Yes. 2 And your footnote says, "Based on information contained 3 in Sears Holding Corporation inventory appraisal by Tiger Capital Group dated September 28th, 2018 for inventory as of 4 5 October 6." Correct? You see that? 6 I do. 7 And then you say you note the historical margin of 27.4 8 percent that implies the 37.7 percent markup is not 9 materially different from the 26.5 percent margin achieved 10 by the go-forward stores during the bankruptcy as shown in 11 Appendix F. Do you see that? 12 I do. 13 Did you do those calculations independently or did you rely on the Tiger report? 14 15 We relied on the Tiger report for what Tiger said. 16 Thank you. 17 But only for what Tiger said. Relied on the company's 18 financials for the historical margins. 19 MR. GENENDER: Those are all the questions I have, 20 Your Honor. 21 THE COURT: Okay. 22 MR. MOLONEY: Just very, very briefly, Your Honor. RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF DAVID SCHULTE 23 24 BY MR. MOLONEY: 25 On first petition, they did sell -- continued to sell

Page 72 1 the inventory, correct? 2 Yes. And they actually realized the same values, 95.6 3 percent value on the going-out-of-business sale and the same 4 5 profit margin as they earned --6 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, at this point -- I 7 haven't, but at this point I'm going to object to counsel 8 testifying through leading questions. 9 MR. MOLONEY: Okay. 10 0 Did they continue to sell the same inventory that they 11 had sold pre-petition, post-petition? 12 Yes. And Footnote 20 says that they -- their historical experience of 27 percent continued. 13 14 And did they achieve the same historical experience on 15 the going-out-of-business sales that they had pre-petition? 16 Α Yes. 17 And did that -- did those revenues, was there 18 significant revenues generated by those sales? 19 I'm sorry --20 Post-petition sales. Were there significant revenues 21 generated by the --22 Yes. I believe the correct number for revenue generate 23 between the petition date and the sale date was over \$3 billion. 24 25 Over \$3 billion?

Page 73 1 Of gross revenue. 2 MR. MOLONEY: Thank you. 3 THE COURT: You may step down. So who's next? Ms. Murray or Mr. Henrich? 4 5 MR. FOX: Your Honor, Edward Fox, for the record. 6 Call William Henrich. 7 THE COURT: Okay. Okay, would you raise your right hand, please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the 8 9 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help 10 you God? 11 MR. HENRICH: I do. 12 THE COURT: Okay. And could you just spell your 13 last name for the record, please? 14 MR. HENRICH: Henrich, H-E-N-R-I-C-H. 15 THE COURT: Okay. And Mr. Henrich, you've 16 submitted an expert report in connection with these 17 disputes. Sitting here today, is there anything that you 18 would want to change in that or your declaration in support 19 of it that attaches? 20 MR. HENRICH: No. The expert report stands as it 21 is, as also the declaration. There are just four minor 22 edits that didn't make it into the last draft --23 THE COURT: Okay. MR. HENRICH: -- transcription errors that -- if 24 25 the Court allows --

Page 74 1 THE COURT: In the declaration? 2 MR. HENRICH: -- I'm happy to clear up. THE COURT: In the declaration? 3 MR. HENRICH: In the declaration. 4 5 THE COURT: Okay. 6 MR. HENRICH: In Paragraph 8, Bucyrus Erie should 7 be EaglePicher. It's a prior testimony. Paragraph 83, 8 there was a transcription error. The go-forward stores' 9 inventory -- it reads, "The go-forward stores' inventory was 10 approximately \$2.497 billion at cost on the petition date." 11 That should've read \$2.074 billion. In Paragraph 94, it says, "reflected in Exhibit 3 to my report." That should've 12 been Exhibit D of the declaration. 13 14 And in Declaration Exhibit D, Exhibit 2A and 2B, 15 the column heading says, "10/15/2019." It should've been 16 10/15/2018. None of these change the analysis or the 17 conclusions of the report or as cited in the declaration. 18 They're just minor edits that didn't make it into the final 19 draft. 20 THE COURT: Okay. Okay. So you want to go ahead 21 with cross? 22 MR. GENENDER: Thank you, Your Honor. May I 23 approach, Your Honor? 24 THE COURT: Yes. 25 CROSS EXAMINATION OF WILLIAM HENRICH

Page 75 1 BY MR. GENENDER: 2 Good morning, Mr. Henrich. 3 Good morning. Α 4 How are you? Q 5 Good, thank you. 6 Okay. You've got a book in front of you that we'll 7 navigate through, a skinny book, and I'll -- we'll be 8 referring back and forth to them. If there's method to how 9 we're going back and forth at the end, let me know how I 10 did, okay? 11 Sure thing. Looking at the first page of the skinny book, the 12 13 (indiscernible) book that says the 507(b) chart, can you 14 turn to that? I have that in front of me. 15 16 Great. Let me stop for a second before I even go 17 there. Did you rely in any way on any third-party appraisals in arriving any of your opinions? Tiger, for 18 19 example? 20 We did not rely on the appraisal. We used it as a data 21 point but did not utilize it in the calculation of our 22 value. Did you do anything to vet the accuracy of anything in 23 the Tiger appraisal? 24 25 Α No.

Page 76 1 Or any other appraisal? 2 Α No. Thank you. Okay. You have the 507(b) chart in front 3 of you and you see there's a column -- the farthest column 4 5 on the right is dedicated to you? 6 I see the last column has my last name --7 Q Yes. 8 -- on top. And then you see the figures below it, correct? 9 10 Α I do. 11 And there is a total inventory value that you're -depicted there that you arrived at of \$3 billion -- \$3.011 12 13 billion. Do you see that? 14 Α I do. 15 And that's your number, correct? 16 Yes. 17 And that's reflected in Exhibit D of your declaration, whether it's 2018 or 2019, right? 18 19 Yes. 20 Q Okay. And you get that number by applying a 29 percent 21 gross margin to the go-forward book value inventory, 22 correct? 23 That was one component of the calculation. 24 Q Okay. 25 Α Right.

Pg 77 of 333 Page 77 1 And would you agree with me that the \$3.011 billion 2 inventory value reflects a 12.4 percent margin on inventory? 3 I am not aware how you calculated that --Α 4 Okay. Q 5 -- percentage. 6 Would you agree with me -- let me try a different way. 7 Would you agree with me that your inventory value of \$3.011 8 billion is 112 percent of the total stock ledger inventory 9 in the October 13th borrowing base certificate, the \$2.69 10 billion number? 11 If you're suggesting by math, if you're dividing the three-oh -- the \$3.011 billion divided by \$2.691 billion, if 12 13 that comes to the calculation that you suggested, by math, I 14 concur. 15 Thank you. In other words, maybe a simpler way to put 16 it, there's a 320-some-odd million dollar difference between 17 your inventory -- your gross inventory calculation and the 18 book value inventory from the borrowing base certificate of \$2.69 billion, correct? 19 20 Again, \$3.011 billion less \$2.691 billion, if your math 21 is correct, I'll take your word for it. 22 Thank you. In your inventory number, if you look at 23 your \$3.011 billion number and go to the left, it's \$816 24 million more than Marti Murray's inventory value, correct?

Yes.

Α

Page 78 1 And it's approximately \$725 million more than Mr. Q 2 Griffith's calculation, correct? 3 It is -- would you repeat the question, please? 4 It's about \$725 million more than Mr. Griffith's 5 calculation, correct, for total inventory? 6 Α No. You see his number of total -- I'm sorry, inventory 7 value of \$2,287,000,000 and yours is \$3,011,000,000? 8 9 I apologize. I was on the wrong line. Sorry. 10 Q Fair enough. 11 Α Okay. About \$725 million more than Mr. Griffith's, correct? 12 Q 13 Α Correct. 14 And about 350 more than Mr. Schulte's, correct? 15 Correct. 16 And you added in -- you included non-inventory 17 collateral sources to your petition date valuation of 18 collateral, correct? Would you repeat the question, please? 19 You included non-inventory collateral sources to you 20 0 collateral calculation --21 22 Α To the total collateral value --23 Yes, sir. Q 24 -- Yes. Α 25 And those were cash, pharmacy receivables, pharmacy Q

Page 79 1 prescription lists, and a figure for credit card 2 receivables, right? 3 Α Correct. All right. The credit card receivable number you used 4 5 is different than the one contained in the borrowing base 6 certificate, right? 7 The credit card receivable amount that we used was that 8 listed in the Debtors' schedules. I believe it is slightly 9 different than what was identified in the borrowing base. 10 I'll represent to you the borrowing base certificate 11 says \$54.8 million. Does that sound right? 12 Thank you, yes. 13 And you see actually just to the left of you that Ms. 14 Murray actually uses the borrowing base certificate number. 15 You see that? 16 Α Yes. 17 So your number's \$9.5 million more than the borrowing 18 base certificate, correct? 19 Α Yes. 20 And you use \$116.2 million for cash, correct? 21 Α Yes. 22 Different than the number for cash used by Mr. Schulte 23 and Ms. Murray, correct? 24 Α Yes. 25 And you use \$14.5 million for pharmacy receivables and

Page 80 1 72.8 million for pharmacy prescription lists, correct? 2 Correct. That's based on your belief that those -- that cash, 3 4 scripts, and pharmacy receivables are 2L collateral, 5 correct? 6 Can you repeat the question, please? 7 Are you expressing an opinion as to whether cash, scripts, and pharmacy receivables are 2L collateral? 8 9 I express an opinion that pharmacy receivables and 10 scripts are 2L collateral cash to the extent that it was out 11 of proceeds of the second lien's collateral, but cash and 12 cash equivalents is the exclusive -- except to the extent it comes out of second lien collateral -- is the exclusive 13 collateral of the first lien. 14 15 Did you perform any calculation of how much of the 16 \$116.2 million of cash you believe came from 2L collateral? 17 No, but it wasn't necessary --18 The answer's no? -- to our analysis. 19 20 Q The answer is, you didn't do that calculation? 21 Α We did not. 22 Thank you. Now, you're not offering -- are you 23 offering an interpretation as to what the 1L and 2L security agreements state as to what's included as 1L collateral and 24 25 what's included at 2L collateral?

Page 81 1 We made certain judgments about that based on the 2 agreements, yes. Okay. 3 Q But again, it was -- but the distinction between what 4 5 was first and second lien collateral was irrelevant to our 6 approach to the calculation of aggregate value. 7 Well, you -- your total collateral value is \$3,279,000,000, correct? 8 9 Correct. 10 And that includes cash, scripts, and pharmacy 11 receivables as reflected on this demonstrative, correct? 12 Yes. 13 If you're turn to the pad that says JX-006 and 007, 14 demonstrative -- if you'll turn that so you can read it, do 15 you see there's a juxtaposition there of Section 3.1 from 16 the 1L security agreement which is JX Exhibit 7 on Pages 13 17 and 14 and Section 2.1 of the 2L security agreement which is 18 JX Exhibit 6, Page 12? Do you see those? Yes, I do. 19 20 And you see that in the 1L security agreement pharmacy 21 receivables, prescription lists, and all cash and cash 22 equivalents are specifically listed as highlighted, correct? 23 Α Yes. 24 And those three items are not so listed in the 2L

security agreement, correct?

Page 82 1 They're not specifically listed --2 Thank you. O 3 -- correct. As a matter of math, going back to the 507(b) chart, 4 5 Mr. Henrich, would you agree with me that if you added 6 \$116.2 million of cash --7 I'm sorry, did we move back to the first page? 8 The charts. Yes, sir. 9 Thank you. 10 You bet. As a matter of math, if you added the \$116 11 million of cash that you include, the -- as 2L collateral, the \$9.5 million of credit card receivable difference 12 13 between your figure and the borrowing base figure of \$14.5 14 million pharmacy receivable figure you used and the \$72.8 15 million pharmacy prescription lists that you use, that that 16 adds up to approximately \$213 million? 17 I beg your pardon? You added the 14.5, the 72.8, the 116.2 --18 19 And 9.5. 20 -- and 9.5. 21 As a delta between the 64.3 and 54.8 from the borrowing 22 base. 23 Α Okay. 24 Do you accept my math on that? 25 I'll accept your math.

Page 83 1 Thank you. Your original report that \$213 million. 2 was, I think we established in your deposition was finalized moments before midnight on June 18th, 2019? 3 4 Yes, we had a chuckle about that. Α 5 Yes. 6 Α Yes. 7 And we just did now. Q 8 Α Yeah. 9 That included as 1L the \$128 million standby letters of 10 credit, correct? 11 I believe you meant 123.8. 12 Yes. You included that as 1L debt in your original 13 report, correct? 14 We did, out of -- to be conservative, because at the 15 time we were uncertain whether the first lien letters of 16 credit were funded, drawn, or not. 17 Okay. You amended your report last Thursday and Q 18 changed that -- your opinion in that regard to exclude both 19 letters of credit as opposed to just one of the 2Letters of 20 credit as 1L debt, correct? 21 Α Like, the initial exclude the standby --22 Yes. Q -- letter of credit, 271, and the second -- and the 23 amended report excluded both the 271 and the 123. 24 25 Okay. And you're basing that solely on the fact --

Pg 84 of 333 Page 84 1 your belief that the letters of credit weren't drawn, 2 correct? Well, based on -- the answer is yes, based on listening 3 to Mr. Griffith's testimony based on inquiry that we made at 4 5 the time that we asked for discovery as it related to the 6 271 and addition and going back to Mr. Riecker's declaration 7 from November 2018 where he indicated that 15 -- \$1.531 8 billion was drawn against the first lien facility and the 9 only way you get to -- was outstanding on the first lien 10 facility and the only way you get to that number is if the 11 395, the aggregate of the 123 and the 271, was not 12 outstanding. 13 Did you -- you agree that those 2Letters of credit, the combined amount of \$395 million, formed a portion of the 14 15 \$5.2 billion purchase price under the APA? 16 I don't have an opinion of that. 17 Okay. You're not aware of that. Are you aware that 18 the 2Letters of credit that you excluded as 1L debt were rolled into, assumed as part of the purchase price of the 19 20 APA? 21 Again, that was irrelevant to our analysis --Α 22 Can you just answer my question? Q 23 -- as to what the debt was as of the petition date.

Can you just answer my question?

Α

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Page 85 1 So you're not aware that the 2Letters of credit were 2 rolled into the APA? Is that correct? 3 I have not studied the APA. Only to the extent that you have discussion with Mr. Schulte and indicated that it 4 5 was. Only to that extent. 6 Can you turn in the larger book in front of you to the 7 tabs that says Joint Exhibit 8? Do you have that in front 8 of you? 9 I do. 10 Have you ever seen Joint Exhibit 8 before? 11 I don't recall. 12 Can you turn to Page 4 of it, please? You see on Page 13 4 of it, the third bullet down underneath the heading. The 14 heading is, "ESL is pleased to offer its \$4.4 billion bid 15 for Newco as a going concern which is composed of the 16 following." Do you see that? 17 MR. FOX: Your Honor, this is the exhibit we 18 (indiscernible). 19 THE COURT: Well, we'll see what he's going to ask 20 first, all right --21 MR. FOX: Thank you. 22 THE COURT: Then I'll consider it. 23 Do you see that heading? Would you (indiscernible) the question again? 24 25 Absolutely. You see the heading on Page 4? It says,

Page 86 1 "ESL bid summary." Do you see that? 2 THE COURT: That's Page 3, right? 3 Α Yeah, I don't -- on Page 4, I do not. THE COURT: I think it's Page 3. 4 5 You're both right. It's Bates number 4 but it's Page 3 6 of the presentation. I apologize, Your Honor. See it says, 7 "ESL bid summary" at the top? 8 Yes, thank you. 9 And then the heading says, "ESL is pleased to offer its 10 \$4.4 billion bid for Newco as a going concern which is 11 composed of the following." Do you see that? 12 I do. 13 And then if you go third bullet point down, it says, \$501 million in rollover debt and it says, \$230 million of 14 15 junior DIP and \$271 million of Citi LC facility. Do you see 16 that? 17 Α I do. Is that the same \$271 million Citi LC facility that you 18 19 did not include as 1L debt? 20 MR. FOX: Objection, Your Honor. He's never even 21 seen this. He doesn't know what it is. 22 THE COURT: He's never seen it before. MR. GENENDER: I'll withdraw it. 23 24 THE COURT: Okay. 25 Mr. Henrich, did you consider Exhibit 8 in any way Q

Page 87 1 forming any of your opinions in this case? 2 No. And can I -- let me ask you the same question on 3 Exhibit 9, which is the next document in the book. Did you 4 consider -- have you seen Exhibit 9 before entitled, 5 6 "Project transform sources and uses, December 2018"? 7 I do not recall seeing it. 8 Thank you. If you could turn in the small book to the 9 very last tab that has three pages from the APA. It's under 10 -- the heading is JX-34. 11 Thank you. Α 12 You bet. See there's a definition of LC facility 13 consideration? 14 I see that highlighted. 15 And on next page, the \$1.4 billion cash component is 16 highlighted? 17 Α Yes. And Page 52 of the document, the LC facility 18 consideration is listed specifically. You see that? 19 20 Yes. 21 Did you rely in any way on these items in the APA in 22 forming your decision to not include the 1L debt -- not include the letters of credit as 1L debt? 23 No. Our consideration of debt was as of the petition 24 25 date.

Page 88 1 Did you do any independent analysis of the fair market 2 value of the 2L debt -- sorry, the 2L collateral as of the sale date? 3 As of the sale date? 4 5 Yes, sir. 6 No. We deemed that irrelevant. 7 Thank you. Q 8 To the analysis. 9 You didn't do a calculation for post-petition interest, 10 did you -- 1L post-petition interest? 11 No --Α 12 MR. FOX: Objection, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: First of all, it's any calculation. Did you answer, sir? 14 15 My prior answer was based on having not done one at any 16 point in time. 17 So you don't have any basis to refute the calculation 18 performed by Mr. Griffith that there was 34 -- that there 19 would be \$34 million in 1L post-petition interest? 20 Other than it seemed odd that the unfunded LCs, that an 21 interest rate of seven -- I think 7.1 percent, if I'm not 22 mistaken, was applied to total first lien debt of 1927 which would assume that the LCs were fully drawn for the 395, the 23 24 123, and the 271, were fully drawn and that would be unusual 25 for a full interest rate to be applied against undrawn LCs.

Pg 89 of 333 Page 89 1 You didn't perform a calculation, did you? 2 No, we didn't perform a calculation. Thank you. Mr. Henrich, you're critical of the 3 Debtors' application of an 85 percent value on the petition 4 date to the book value of inventory because, as you say, the 5 6 Debtors' actual experience at the GOB stores yielded 96.4 7 percent of book value. Is that correct? 8 Yes. 9 Okay. Do you understand Mr. Griffith applied 85 -- an 10 85 percent figure to the total inventory, rather than just 11 the GOB inventory? 12 That's what -- that was his methodology. 13 And if you'll look sir, at the second tab in the spiral 14 book that says, "Borrowing base certificate." 15 I have that in front of me. 16 Mr. Griffith applies an 85 percent fair market value 17 figure to the total stock ledger inventory of \$2.69 billion. You see that? 18 Would you repeat the question? I apologize. 19 20 0 Sure. Mister -- you see the total stock ledger 21 inventory number of \$2.69 billion? 22 Α Yes.

- 23 Okay. And if you go back now to the 507(b) chart; you
- have that in front of you? 24
- 25 Α Yes.

Page 90 1 That's -- and that's the figure to which Mr. Griffith 2 applies an 85 percent fair market value number, correct? That's to which he applies 85 percent. 3 Yes. Well -- yes, which he calls a fair market value 4 5 figure, right? 6 Which he calls a fair market value. 7 He does not apply that 85 percent figure to the net 8 eligible inventory reflected on the borrowing base, does he, 9 if you go back to the next page? 10 He does not. 11 And the delta between those two numbers of the total 12 stock ledger inventory and the net eligible inventory is 13 about \$300 million, correct? 14 The 269.1 less the 239.1. 15 Q Yes. 16 Correct. 17 Have you done the math to see how his inventory value 18 of \$2.287 billion compares as a percentage to the net 19 eligible inventory number on the borrowing base certificate 20 of \$2.391 billion? 21 No. Again, that was irrelevant --22 Is the answer no? Q 23 -- to the analysis. 24 Answer's no? 25 The answer is no.

Page 91 1 If that number, would you be surprised if that 2 number came out to approximately 96 percent? Shall I take your word on the math again? 3 Up to you. \$2.287 billion over \$3.91 billion is over 4 5 95 percent, isn't it? 6 That would be about correct. 7 Thank you. And we can agree that it is what it is, 8 right? 9 Correct. 10 Thank you. You'd agree, sir, as a general proposition 11 the inventory that is in a store to be sold is eligible 12 inventory, correct? 13 Inventory that is in a store --14 To be sold. 15 -- can be sold. 16 To be sold, is eligible inventory. 17 It is inventory and -- but whether something's eligible or ineligible is a lender's definition to determine 18 19 ultimately what they're going to lend against. 20 Q And you didn't give that any weight, did you? 21 Α No. 22 And I want to talk -- let me talk about 506(c) 23 surcharges in this -- Mr. Henrich, you agree that there should be 506(c) surcharges in this case, correct? 24 25 Α Correct.

Page 92 1 Of the three experts, you're the one that feels that 2 way, right? 3 Α Correct. And you'd agree that a certain allocation of 4 professional fees went to the primary and direct benefit of 5 6 the second lienholders and the Debtors are entitled to a 7 506(c) surcharge on that basis, correct? 8 I believe that some portion of professional fees would 9 be properly allocable to 506(c). 10 You testified that because we do believe that a certain 11 allocation of professional fees are -- in the pendency of 12 the bankruptcy case are applicable to providing primary and 13 direct benefit to the preservation of the collateral for the 14 secured lender, correct? 15 I concur. 16 That's your testimony? 17 Then I certainly concur. 18 And you previously testified on 506(c) surcharges in this very Court, right? 19 I did. 20 21 In the In RE: Flat Out Crazy, LLC bankruptcy, right? 22 Correct. Α 23 And you were -- and that was before Judge Drain, 24 correct? 25 Α It was.

Page 93 1 And you were successful in that matter in obtaining --2 well, the Debtor in that case was successful in obtaining a 3 506(c) surcharge over the objection of a secured creditor and successful bidder at an auction in that case, correct? 4 5 Subject to His Honor's allocation of expense, yes. 6 Okay. And you said that was -- there was a secured 7 lender in that case that, in your words, "essentially wanted the sale process for free." Do you recall telling me that 8 9 in a deposition? 10 I do. 11 And you testified in that case that among other things, 12 you took the pre-petition and post-petition steps to 13 stabilize and improve profitability across the entire 14 business, USCRO in that case, right? 15 Correct. 16 And you're aware that M3 was engaged as early as 2016 17 to act as the Debtors' financial advisors in this case? 18 I don't recall when they were retained, but I know they were there pre-petition. 19 20 Okay. And they are serving as the chief restructuring 21 officer in this case? 22 Α Correct. You testified that to the extent Mr. Schulte or Ms. 23 24 Murray opined that there should be no 506(c) surcharge

against the collateral, you disagree with that analysis,

Pg 94 of 333 Page 94 1 correct? 2 Yes, consistent with what I indicated previously. Your analysis deducts or includes as 506(c) surcharges 3 Q 4 corporate overhead expenses which help preserve the 5 collateral as a component of the 506(c) expenses, correct? 6 Well, we included professional fees as 506(c) costs and 7 we thought that there should be an allocation of corporate expenses as well. 8 9 \$51 million of professional feels, \$138 million of 10 corporate overhead expense, and \$19.1 million of expenses 11 associated with the GOB source, correct? 12 Correct. Those are the numbers we ascribe -- we had no basis to -- we utilized the Debtors' number on the 506(c) 13 14 professional fees. 15 But the other numbers you calculated, correct? 16 Correct. 17 And the total is reflected on the 507(b) chart demonstrative of \$208.1 million, correct? 18 19 Correct. 20 So I want to go -- finishing on the 507(b) chart and 21 try and figure out and go through with you, you see you have 22 a total 507(b) claim of \$1.314 billion. Do you see that? 23 Α Yes. Which is \$350 million more than Mr. Schulte's, correct? 24 25 Α Correct.

Page 95 1 And \$820 million more than Ms. Murray's, correct? 2 Correct. Α 3 And \$1.375 billion different than the total arrived at by the Debtors, correct? 4 5 Correct. 6 That delta between your figure and the Debtors' figure 7 is comprised of \$395 million of letters of credit that you 8 didn't include, correct? 9 Yes, that's one component. 10 Plus the \$34 million of 1L post-petition interest, 11 correct -- first lien interest? 12 Yes. Α 13 Those together are \$429 million, right? 14 Α Yes. And then the total difference in collateral between 15 16 your figure and the Debtors' figure is about \$945 million, 17 is that right? Total collateral. 18 The difference between the \$3,279,000,000 and the \$2,334,000,000. 19 20 Q Yes. 21 Α Yes. 22 And those two figures together arrive at a delta 23 between your figure and the Debtors' figure of about \$1.375 billion, correct? 24 25 \$1.375?

Page 96 1 Q Billion, yes. 2 Okay --Α 3 Because you're positive 1.314 --And you're negative --4 And the Debtors are negative \$60 million. 5 6 Yes. Α 7 To be fair, you would -- unlike the experts, would 8 apply a \$208.1 million 506(c) surcharge, right? 9 I couldn't hear you. 10 You would apply a 506(c) surcharge, correct? 11 Yes. Α 12 And you haven't done any independent calculations 13 regarding Mr. Griffith's calculations on expenses incurred in furtherance of the sale for the direct and primary 14 15 benefit of the preservation of collateral for the time 16 periods December 28 to February 11th, correct? 17 Between December 28th and February 11th? Yes. 18 Q 19 No. 20 Q And you didn't do any sort of analysis of his 21 calculations of those saving -- expenses for time period 22 January 17th, 2019 to February 11th, 2019, correct? 23 Α Correct. 24 MR. GENENDER: Pass the witness. Thank you, Your 25 Honor.

Page 97 1 THE COURT: Redirect? (Indiscernible). 2 MR. LIUBICIC: For the record, Robert Liubicic on 3 behalf of Cyrus Capital. RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF WILLIAM HENRICH 4 5 BY MR. LIUBICIC: 6 Good afternoon, Mr. Henrich. 7 Mr. Henrich, just a couple of questions about the testimony that you gave about 506(b) surcharges, if that's 8 9 okay. 10 Sure. Do you --11 THE COURT: Can I interrupt you? Are you going to 12 do direct? I thought he was your witness, Mr. Fox. MR. FOX: He is. Mr. Liubicic wanted to ask about 13 -- a couple questions Mr. Genender asked and --14 15 MR. LIUBICIC: Your Honor, I just have about three 16 questions that relate to Ms. Murray. 17 THE COURT: Okay. 18 Mr. Henrich, are you aware that Ms. Murray used an 88.7 percent NOLV to value eligible inventory? 19 20 I am. 21 Okay. Do you know whether Ms. Murray's NOLV includes 22 the direct selling costs of disposal of that inventory? Well, by definition, if you're using the net orderly 23 24 liquidation value it would already consider direct selling 25 expenses.

Page 98 1 And do you know whether Ms. Murray's NOLV includes the 2 non-direct selling costs of disposing of that inventory? 3 With respect to corporate expenses, for example? Α 4 For example. 5 Well, to the extent that it relied on the Tiger 6 valuation report, the Tiger valuation report did consider 7 some level of corporate overhead royalty expense and there 8 was one other line item, as well. 9 MR. LIUBICIC: No further questions. 10 THE COURT: Okay. 11 RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF WILLIAM HENRICH 12 BY MR. FOX: 13 Good afternoon, I think it is, Mr. Henrich. My name's 14 Edward Fox, as you know. I represent Wilmington Trust. 15 Genender asked you a few questions about the difference 16 between the total inventory number that you used and the 17 total inventory number that Mr. Griffith used. Do you recall that? 18 19 Yes. 20 Q Okay. Can you explain why there's a difference between your total inventory number and Mr. Griffith's total 21 22 inventory number? 23 Α Yes. There's different methodologies. So we used -- we've 24 25 looked at valuing the collateral by its intended use as of

the petition date. So we recognized that there were 262 stores, albeit that was in three waves, that were GOB stores that were going to be liquidated and there were 425 stores that were going to be going concern, going forward stores.

its, essentially, actual results as reported by the company, which exceeded approximate 96 percent, well exceeded the 85 percent multiplier that Mr. Griffith used and then with respect to the going forward stores, the assumption there is that inventory was going to be sold at retail and being sold at retail, it would generate a gross margin. That gross margin dollars would pay for both direct selling expense as well as corporate expense and leave a margin so that inventory would actually generate incremental value for the benefit of the company.

And so that distinction, you know, of looking at inventory actually being sold at retail as opposed to a contrived or assumed 85 percent is -- yields a difference of a magnitude as depicted. I wouldn't call 85 percent of fair market value of inventory at the petition date, nor would I consider it a value of inventory sold at retail. You couldn't -- an entity, if that was the fair market value at retail, they would be never making money.

And here, the assumption was that this inventory was going to be sold as -- in going concern stores and an

- 1 ongoing business.
- 2 Q Now, when you applied a gross margin, I believe you
- 3 testified you used a 29 percent gross margin on book value?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q And how'd you pick that number?
- 6 A Well, that was the number that the Debtor actually
- 7 identified and assumed through most of its business plans
- and forecasts for the going forward stores in presentations
- 9 to the Unsecured Creditors' Committee and there were various
- 10 presentations that incorporated that.
- 11 Q And then after you applied the gross margin to the book
- 12 | value of inventory to get the gross value, what did you do
- 13 next in order to reach your net value?
- 14 A So, we applied direct selling expenses and we used
- direct selling expenses and a comparable basis as what the
- 16 experience had been as a percentage of inventory in the GOB
- 17 stores as we saw. In fact, the 20 percent that we utilized
- 18 is slightly -- is actually slightly higher than that. And
- 19 then we applied a 5 percent corporate overhead number for
- 20 the going forward stores. We actually used the 3.1 percent
- 21 of inventory for the GOB stores. And that 5 percent, we
- 22 thought, was reasonable.
- 23 It made -- it was not necessarily all that the
- 24 company incurred because it was a bloated corporate
- 25 structure that was on the decline as they were looking -- as

they were shedding stores over time. But if you looked at their forecasts of corporate overhead expenses, they incurred in 2017 about a \$1.71 billion which is about 10 percent, 10 percent plus, of revenue.

In 2018, they incurred about \$600 million which was about 5.5 percent and their forecast for 2019 was, if memory serves me right, \$365 million which was about 4.4 percent. So we opted -- we thought from a normalized operations based on experience in retail operations, 5 percent was a reasonable going concern, go-forward number and it was relative -- it was consistent with the blend between 2018 and 2019 that they were experiencing.

- Q Do you recall the amount of direct selling expense you deducted in your report from the gross margin inventory number?
- 16 A Do I remember the direct selling expense?
- Q The total direct selling cost that you deducted from the gross margin.
- 19 A I have to look it up.
- Q You can take a look if you don't remember. You have your report there, or your declaration.
- 22 A Is that total for the -- the total between the GOB and

the going forward, are you asking, or just one or the other?

- 24 Q Just the go forward.
- 25 A Just the go forward.

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Page 102 1 If you can. 2 I believe -- well, can someone please --3 Do you have your report? -- direct me -- well, just -- I have the report. Here, 4 5 is just my -- what is this, Exhibit D? That's that. A 6 total of approximately \$470 million. THE COURT: And that -- I'm sorry, you testified 7 8 that's 20 percent of what? 9 MR. HENRICH: For the going forward stores, it's 10 20 percent of revenue. 11 THE COURT: Of gross sales? 12 MR. HENRICH: Of gross revenue, gross sales. 13 And would those direct selling expenses include some of 14 the things that Mr. Griffith calls 506(c) surcharges, things 15 like rent and employee expense and things of that nature? 16 Α Yes. 17 Now, you also talked about -- you also deducted 18 overhead expense? How much overhead expense did you deduct? 19 Approximately \$158 million. 20 Q Okay. And that was over a period of about four months? 21 Α Correct. 22 So on an annualized basis, what would have been the 23 total overhead cost you'd be using? Corporate overhead 24 cost. 25 450. Α

Page 103 1 About \$450 million? 2 Right. Α And does that compare favorably, in your view, to the 3 4 assumptions that the Debtors made in the report you're 5 referring to? 6 It's consistent. I mean, as I said, it's consistent 7 with a blend between 2018, 2019. 8 Okay. And the report you looked at was -- had M3's 9 name on it, right? It was a report to the Unsecured Creditors' Committee. 10 11 Yes, it did. 12 Okay. Now, the -- I think you mentioned the 3.1 percent number that you used, that you referenced Tiger? 13 14 that correct? 15 Yes. 16 And just tell me again what that was? 17 So in -- and this is the one place that we did look at 18 the Tiger appraisal, correct slightly my earlier statement, but the Tiger appraisal report incorporated an allocation of 19 20 cost of corporate overhead as well as royalty expense and 21 there was one other line item that I can't recall right now. 22 The aggregate of the three was 3.1 percent of inventory 23 value. 24 Did you rely on the Tiger 3.1 percent number in your 25 analysis?

- 1 A Well, in fact, for the GOB stores, we didn't rely on
- 2 it. I take that -- because, in fact, we looked at actual
- 3 results.
- 4 Q So you looked at -- so is it fair to say you looked at
- 5 the Tiger number but you did not rely on that number?
- 6 A That's correct.
- 7 Q Okay. Now --
- 8 A No, I beg your pardon. Let me -- I beg your pardon.
- 9 Let me take a step back. We did not rely in terms of direct
- 10 selling expenses. We did not rely on the Tiger report.
- 11 With respect to an allocation of corporate overhead, we did
- 12 rely on the Tiger report only for the 3.1 -- we utilized the
- 13 | 3.1 percent and applied that to the GOB inventory to derive
- 14 the \$18, \$19 million of corporate expenses. So I apologize
- 15 to what I said before.
- 16 Q Okay. And to the extent that the Debtor had going-out-
- of-business sales and go-forward store sales going on at the
- 18 same time, isn't there just one -- is it fair to say there's
- one overall corporate overhead number that the company
- 20 incurs?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q Okay.
- 23 A It's the same people.
- 24 Q Right. So if you were a little lower on, say, going-
- out-of-business stores, you'd be a little bit higher on the

- other stores to get the overall total, correct?
- 2 A Well, again, we thought that the aggregate allocation
- 3 that we made for corporate overhead was a fair allocation
- 4 and in our estimation, reasonable.
- 5 Q Okay. Now, you were -- it was pointed out during your
- 6 testimony with respect to this -- the Debtors' 507(b)
- 7 calculation chart that there was a difference of -- between
- 8 your total inventory number and both the Murray -- wait, I'm
- 9 sorry. Strike that. Move on. You were asked about your
- 10 use of cash in connection with your evaluation. So did you
- include the cash in your collateral numbers?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Okay. And -- but was it your view that that's 2L,
- 14 second lien cash or is it your view that it's first lien
- 15 cash?
- 16 A Our view was that it was first lien cash, but we were
- 17 looking at the aggregate collateral value as compared to the
- 18 aggregate debt stack.
- 19 Q So are you saying you -- that it doesn't matter to you,
- 20 then, whose -- whether it's first lien or second lien
- 21 | collateral when you applied it here?
- 22 A For our analysis, it did not. It did not matter. We
- 23 did assume that the first liens would look to cash to
- 24 satisfy their debt first. We did make that assumption.
- 25 Q Was it your understanding that the second lien -- part

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 106 of 333 Page 106 1 of the second lien collateral included proceeds from the 2 sales of inventory? 3 Α Yes. 4 And are you aware that the Debtor had a cash management 5 system into which the proceeds of inventory would flow? 6 Yes. Α 7 Okay. Now, you were asked about, I believe, it's a \$34 million post-petition interest accrual that Mr. Griffith 8 9 applied. Do you recall that? 10 Yes. 11 Okay. Now, is it your understanding that that was 12 interest that was outstanding at the petition date or is -was it an assumption about what interest would accrue after 13 14 the petition date? 15 The latter. By definition, it's post-petition interest 16 that was calculated to some degree and therefore it was 17 subsequent to the petition date. 18 So in your understanding, it was not an amount of

- interest which was outstanding at the petition date, 19 20 correct?
- 21 Correct, and such is why we did not include it as part 22 of the debt at the petition date.
 - Okay. Now, I think you may have answered this when you used the word contrived, but I just want to be clear. your -- Mr. Griffith applies this 85 percent number to the

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18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 107 of 333 Page 107 1 total inventory of \$2,690,000,000. Is that your 2 understanding? 3 Α Yes. Okay. And as of the petition date, in your view, is it 4 a fair view of fair market value to assume that the 5 6 inventory value is only 85 percent of its book value at the 7 petition date? 8 No. 9 And why not? 10 For the reasons that I stated before, which are a 11 couple. One is even in liquidation, the liquidation value is approximately 96 percent, not 85 percent. Second, it 12 13 ignores the fact that inventory was sold at retail in the 14 going-forward stores that yields a much higher valuation 15 than, by definition, than liquidation value. And as 85 16 percent, the stores would never be in business, if that was 17 the fair market value of the inventory at retail in a go-18 forward operation. Now, you were asked about Mr. Griffith's assumption 19 20 about 506(c) expenses and whether you had analyzed his 21 assumptions. Do you recall that? 22 Α Yes. Did you look at the amounts that he asserted should be 23 surcharged against the second lien collateral under 506(c), 24

laying aside the legal expense?

A We did look at it.

- 2 Q And what was your view when you looked at it?
- 3 A Well, we thought it was, A, duplicative. I mean -- but
- 4 again, even at 85 percent, if you assumed that was a
- 5 | liquidation value, that would be net of direct selling
- expenses and in the stack of 506(c) charges that were
- 7 identified by Mr. Griffith, he incorporated direct selling
- 8 expenses, a considerable degree of direct selling expenses.
- 9 So to us, that was even on the surface, duplicative and
- 10 there was no way to discern how those numbers were derived.
- 11 Q When you say there was no way to discern how those
- numbers were derived, can you explain what you mean by that?
- 13 A Well, there was no (indiscernible). It was just -- it
- 14 was merely stated that these are the 506(c) charges that we
- 15 believe exist and there was no -- there was no provision of
- 16 any backup or how those -- or description as to how those
- 17 numbers were derived.
- 18 Q Okay. And you were at Mr. Griffith's deposition,
- 19 weren't you?
- 20 A I was.
- 21 Q And did he -- was he able to explain then about how he
- 22 derived the 506(c) numbers?
- MR. GENENDER: I'm going to object, Your Honor.
- 24 His testimony is what it is.
- THE COURT: His what?

Page 109 1 MR. GENENDER: His testimony is what it is. 2 THE COURT: Well --3 MR. GENENDER: He's asking to comment. 4 THE COURT: I think you're setting up the next 5 question, right? Is this a foundation question? 6 MR. FOX: Yes. 7 THE COURT: Maybe you should rephrase it. 8 Do you recall, Mr. --9 Henrich. 10 -- Henrich -- see what happens? Do you recall Mr. 11 Griffith's testimony at his deposition about his schedule of 506(c) charges? 12 13 Α Yes. 14 Okay. And do you recall whether there was any analysis 15 -- or, I'm sorry, that there was any -- did he say whether 16 he had any backup to the numbers that he was asserting? 17 THE COURT: All right, I will sustain the 18 objection. MR. FOX: That's fine, Your Honor. I'm almost 19 finished. 20 21 THE COURT: Okay. 22 MR. FOX: Thank you, Your Honor. That's all. 23 THE COURT: Okay. Any re-cross? MR. GENENDER: Very briefly, Your Honor. 24 25 THE COURT: Okay.

Page 110 1 RE-CROSS EXAMINATION OF WILLIAM HENRICH 2 BY MR. GENENDER: Mr. Henrich, did you do anything to independently test 3 4 the 29 percent gross margin you used other than rely on the 5 records you referred to? 6 Α No. 7 You referred to a presentation to the UCC by M3. Do you recall being asked about that? 8 9 I mean, that wasn't the only place that the 29 10 percent appeared, but yes. 11 What was the date of the presentation? 12 Sincerely don't recall. I don't recall the exact date. 13 MR. GENENDER: Thank you. THE COURT: Do you have any questions on that? 14 15 MR. FOX: No, Your Honor. 16 THE COURT: So, Mr. Henrich, you said that 17 evaluation of the inventory for the going-forward stores is less than 100 percent, specifically 85 percent, those stores 18 wouldn't be in business. They wouldn't be profitable 19 20 stores? You remember that testimony? 21 MR. HENRICH: Yes. 22 THE COURT: So are you assuming, then, that all 23 the profit in the stores is in the inventory? Is that a 24 necessary assumption for that statement? 25 MR. HENRICH: As opposed to the other parts of the

Page 111 1 Sears --2 THE COURT: As opposed to the people, the real 3 estate, the location. MR. HENRICH: Oh, no, I wasn't -- but as an 4 5 ongoing -- but I said as a going concern business, it 6 wouldn't be a going concern business. Would there be other 7 value in property? Sure. But I mean as a going concern 8 business. 9 THE COURT: So in other words, you're attributing 10 the profit in those going concern stores and sending it to 11 the inventory line? 12 MR. HENRICH: Well, the stores are there to 13 merchandise and sell inventory and gain -- and generate a 14 contribution to be able to pay, to contribute to overhead 15 and other costs of the business. If you're generating 16 materially less than what the inventory cost you to begin 17 with, then you're not generating any contribution to 18 overhead. THE COURT: But -- okay, but your allocation of 19 20 costs is largely after the fact, right, for corporate overhead and four-wall costs, et cetera? 21 22 MR. HENRICH: Well, we tried --23 THE COURT: For going forward. 24 MR. HENRICH: Well --25 THE COURT: I understand your analysis on the GOB

Page 112 1 sales. 2 MR. HENRICH: Right. Well, we -- what we did was try to look at normalized operations and for -- and we 3 needed to attribute to this volume of collateral, right, so 4 5 we looked at applying percentages that seemed to be 6 appropriate for normalized operations. But I would add to 7 Your Honor -- and I know that, somewhat ancillary, but we 8 had generated approximately \$400 million of -- close to \$400 9 million of cushion in the comparison of the value of the 10 collateral to the debt. 11 Even if you eliminated the entire net margin on 12 the go-forward stores that we incorporated which was about 4 13 percent on \$2.7 billion, so it's about \$110 million, you'd still be well over collateralized. 14 15 THE COURT: Making the other assumptions about the 16 first lien debt and the rest? 17 MR. HENRICH: Correct. 18 THE COURT: Right. MR. HENRICH: Correct. 19 20 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Anything on that? 21 MR. FOX: Nothing further. 22 THE COURT: Okay. You can step down. MR. HENRICH: Thank you. 23 24 THE COURT: Okay. How long do you think your 25 cross will be of Ms. Murray?

Page 113 1 MR. GENENDER: Shorter. 2 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So unless people 3 are dying to take a break, should we just go ahead with Ms. 4 Murray, then? 5 MR. FOX: That'd be great. 6 THE COURT: Okay. 7 MR. FOX: Your Honor, at this time, we'll call 8 Marti Murray. 9 THE COURT: Okay. Okay, would you raise your 10 right hand, please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the 11 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help 12 you God? 13 MS. MURRAY: I do. THE COURT: Could you spell your last name, 14 15 please? 16 MS. MURRAY: M-U-R-R-A-Y. 17 THE COURT: Okay. All right, and Ms. Murray, you 18 also submitted an expert report in connection with these 19 contested matters in a declaration. Sitting here today, 20 knowing that those would be your direct testimony, is there 21 anything you want to change in it? 22 MS. MURRAY: I have one clarification, Your Honor. 23 THE COURT: Okay. 24 MS. MURRAY: Paragraph 15 in my declaration 25 contains a correction to Paragraph 104 in my report.

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1	Paragraphs 104 of my report, I say that the proposed
2	surcharge would equal 62 percent of the \$2.457 billion of
3	non-cash collateral. That \$2.457 billion number actually
4	included a cash balance of 123.2, so the correct value of
5	the non-cash collateral is \$2.334 billion which is stated in
6	the declaration.
7	THE COURT: Okay. And that affects the percentage
8	number, too?
9	MS. MURRAY: I'm sorry?
10	THE COURT: Did that affect would that affect
11	the percent, too
12	MS. MURRAY: It did not.
13	THE COURT: or just the number?
14	MS. MURRAY: The percent is correct.
15	THE COURT: Percent was correct. Okay. All
16	right. Okay. You can go ahead with cross.
17	MR. GENENDER: Thank you, Your Honor.
18	CROSS EXAMINATION OF MARTI MURRAY
19	BY MR. GENENDER:
20	Q Good afternoon, Ms. Murray.
21	A Good afternoon.
22	MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, may I approach the book
23	for her?
24	THE COURT: Yes.
25	MR. GENENDER: (Indiscernible).

Pg 115 of 333 Page 115 1 THE COURT: Thanks. 2 Ms. Murray, you performed a liquidation analysis as of 3 the petition date, correct? 4 I performed evaluation analysis as of the petition 5 date, correct. 6 And you did it by taking the net inventory value from 7 the borrowing base certificate and applying -- adding an 8 amount for inventory in transit and then applying an 88.7 9 percent NOLV percentage, correct? 10 I applied 88.7 percent net orderly liquidation value to 11 the eligible inventory and then I assessed a certain value 12 for in-transit inventory. 13 Yes. Do you have the small spiral-bound book in front of you? Can you turn -- do you have the first page that 14 15 says 507(b) diminution calculation in front of you? 16 Α Yes. 17 And there's a column with your name above it. You see 18 that? 19 Yes. 20 Q And what you just said is -- you started with the 21 eligible inventory of \$2.391 billion, correct? 22 I don't have the source documents in front of me. I'm 23 only looking at your analysis. 24 Well, if you turn to the next page, it's the borrowing

base certificate. You see where it has net eligible

- 1 inventory at 2.391 billion? The next tab, Ms. Murray, next
- 2 tab.
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Okay. And you said you applied 88.7 percent, which is
- 5 the NO- -- same NOLV percentage on the borrowing base
- 6 certificate, right?
- 7 A Correct.
- 8 Q You applied that to 2.319, the net eligible inventory,
- 9 and then added an amount for in-transit; is that correct?
- 10 A I did.
- 11 Q And you came up with an inventory value of \$2.196
- 12 billion; is that right?
- 13 A That is the minimum inventory value.
- 14 Q I understand you have an alternative. I'm operating
- 15 under your lower number.
- 16 A Okay.
- 17 Q Is that correct?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Okay. And you relied -- and did you rely upon the
- 20 Tiger report, which is in your notebook as Exhibit 4, in the
- 21 | larger notebook as Exhibit 4; did you rely upon that for the
- 22 88.7 percent NOLV figure?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q And the Tiger report is an inventory appraisal prepared
- 25 by Tiger Valuation Services, right?

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- 1 A Correct.
- 2 Q Tiger and its affiliated companies provide an appraisal
- and liquidation services to retail, wholesale and industrial
- 4 companies; that's what they do, right?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q Did you perform any independent analysis or
- 7 verification of any of the information in the Tiger report?
- 8 A I prepared an analysis verifying the appropriateness of
- 9 the net orderly liquidation value percentage that they
- 10 concluded.
- 11 Q Did you do any independent verification of actually the
- 12 assets that they appraised, or did you simply rely upon the
- 13 | Tiger appraisal?
- 14 A The assets they appraised were assets that were -- or
- 15 that don't -- aren't -- don't exist anymore, so it wouldn't
- 16 be possible for me to do an independent evaluation of the
- 17 actual assets that they appraised.
- 18 Q So you just relied on the Tiger report.
- 19 A I relied on the Tiger report, which incorporates
- 20 information that Tiger received from management.
- 21 Q Thank you. You didn't conduct your own appraisal of
- 22 the inventory to determine its value at petition date, did
- 23 you?
- 24 A I think I did. I applied --
- 25 Q By using the Tiger report?

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- 1 A I applied what I viewed as reasonable and conservative
- 2 assumptions about a net orderly liquidation value to the
- 3 borrowing base certificate that reflected the state of the
- 4 inventory as of October 13, 2018.
- 5 Q And your figure for the inventory value for your first
- 6 case is approximately \$92 million less than the inventory
- 7 value calculated by Mr. Griffith, correct?
- 8 A I can't do that calculation sitting here.
- 9 Q But yours is 2.196 and his is 2.287. Do you see that?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q Okay.
- 12 A That's not an apples-to-apples comparison.
- 13 Q I'm just asking if your net inventory number -- if your
- inventory number is 2.196; is that right?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q Thank you.
- 17 A On a net orderly liquidation value basis.
- 18 Q I understand that; that's your testimony. And you
- 19 included credit cards rec- -- then you added to that figure
- 20 credit card receivables, cash, scripts and pharmacy
- 21 receivables; is that right?
- 22 A Correct.
- 23 Q And you got the credit card receivable figure from the
- 24 borrowing base certificate, right?
- 25 A Yes.

- 1 Q And then the -- you have a different number from case -
- 2 for cash than Mr. Schulte and Mr. Henrich; is that right?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q All right. Where did you get that number from?
- 5 A It's from the statement of financial affairs that was
- 6 filed by the debtors.
- 7 Q And are you offering an opinion that cash, scripts and
- 8 | pharmacy receivables are 2L -- are 2L collateral?
- 9 A What I stated is that I -- my analysis is based on the
- 10 assumption that the cash represents proceeds from inventory
- 11 and receivables.
- 12 Q You didn't perform any sort of analysis to determine
- 13 what percentage or what amount, if any, of that cash arise
- 14 from inventory proceeds, correct?
- 15 A I did not. I relied on the assumption that it was
- 16 proceeds from inventory and receivables.
- 17 Q You did not do analysis, correct?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q Thank you. If you can turn to the tab in the small
- 20 bound book that says JX-6 and 7. It has excerpts from
- 21 Exhibits -- Joint Exhibits 6 and 7, the 1L and 2L security
- 22 agreements. Do you have that in front of you?
- 23 A I do.
- 24 Q And you'll agree -- did you review these documents as
- 25 part of your work in this case?

Page 120 1 I did. 2 And you'll agree that the 1L, the excerpt on collateral for the 1L security agreement specifically enumerates 3 pharmacy receivables -- all pharmacy receivables, all 4 5 prescription lists, and all cash and cash equivalents, 6 correct? 7 Α Yes. And those corresponding items are not specifically 8 9 enumerated in the 2L security agreement definition of collateral in Section 2.1, correct? 10 11 They're not specifically enumerated. 12 Thank you. 13 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, bear with me. I'm just 14 skipping some things that we've already covered. 15 Ms. Murray, are you aware if the company generates cash 16 from things besides selling inventory? 17 The company is a retailer, so I would assume that most Α 18 of the cash that it generates is from the sell of inventory. It could, from time to time, generate cash from the sale of 19 20 assets. 21 Okay. Ms. Murray, that's not my question, though. 22 you aware that Sears generates cash from things besides 23 selling inventory? 24 I'm sorry. Could you --25

Sure.

Q

Page 121 1 I have hearing loss. 2 No, I know. Q 3 So I sometimes can't catch. 4 If I don't keep my voice up, please let me know. Okay? 5 Thank you. 6 You bet. Are you aware that Sears generates revenue --Q 7 cash -- from things other than selling inventory in stores? 8 Α Yes. 9 That would include Home Services, right? 10 Α Yes. 11 That would include warranties, right? Q 12 Α Yes. Did you perform any tracing analysis in connection with 13 O your figure of \$123 million of cash that's in your report? 14 15 Α No. 16 Thank you. Ms. Murray, if you look at the 507(b) 17 demonstrative, that first page we were looking at. You'd 18 agree that by including cash, scripts and pharmacy receivables, that that's approximately \$206 million of your 19 20 total collateral figure of 2.457 billion; is that right? 21 I'm sorry. What was the question? 22 Sure. You see -- if you -- would you agree that your 23 inclusion of cash, scripts and pharmacy receivables total about \$206.5 million? 24 25 It sounds about right.

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- 1 Q Okay, thank you.
- 2 A I don't know have my calculator here.
- 3 Q Thank you. And you did not include the two letters of
- 4 credit as part of 1L debt, did you?
- 5 A I did not.
- 6 Q And you did that -- you excluded them because they were
- 7 not fully drawn, right?
- 8 A I excluded them because they represent contingent
- 9 obligation. They weren't funded as of the filing date;
- 10 therefore, including them was not consistent with what was
- 11 known as the filing date. And I also excluded them because
- 12 only 9.1 million of them were drawn between the filing date
- and May 2019; and, therefore, it wouldn't have been knowable
- 14 as the filing date that the amount would have been drawn.
- 15 Q You included a chart as part of your declaration and
- 16 report that reflected their 89.1 percent of the debtors' LCs
- 17 related to workers' compensation insurance and surety bonds,
- 18 correct?
- 19 A If you represent that's the percent in the report, I
- don't have the report in front of me.
- 21 Q You do have it in front of you, but I'm going to save
- 22 time and --
- 23 A Okay.
- 24 Q -- I will represent that your chart says 89.1 percent.
- 25 Will you accept that representation?

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- 1 Sure.
- 2 Thank you. Workers' compensation, those sorts of 0
- 3 obligations can arise 20 to 30 years into the future, can't
- they? 4
- 5 I don't know that.
- 6 Okay, thank you. Are you aware that the two letters of
- 7 credit formed \$395 million of the \$5.2 billion purchase
- 8 price under the asset purchase agreement?
- 9 I'm aware that those facilities were assumed under the
- 10 asset purchase agreement.
- 11 In other words, they had to be dealt with under the
- 12 APA, correct?
- 13 The facilities had to be dealt with, but the --
- 14 certainly that amount was not drawn.
- 15 Are you -- you're aware that there are ongoing annual
- 16 insurance payment obligations associated with the letters of
- 17 credit, aren't you?
- I am aware that there are insurance premiums that are 18
- paid in the normal course of business for the company. 19
- You did not include -- I want to switch to 506(c). You 20
- didn't include a 506(c) surcharge in your analysis, correct? 21
- 22 I think that, while I don't call it a 506(c) surcharge,
- my understanding of what a 506(c) surcharge is is included 23
- 24 in my analysis, which is the cost necessary to maintain and
- 25 preserve the collateral. And I believe that that's already

- incorporated into the net orderly liquidation value
- 2 percentages that I posed.
- 3 Q And you believe that by taking 88.7 percent of the net
- 4 inventory figure that that takes into account what would
- 5 otherwise be 506(c) type expenses; is that fair?
- 6 A I think it takes into account what my understanding is
- of what a 506(c) surcharge is supposed to represent, which
- 8 is the necessary cost of maintaining and preserving a
- 9 collateral. And based on my review of the Tiger appraisals,
- 10 | that -- those costs are already included; both direct and
- 11 indirect expenses are deducted from the gross recovery on
- 12 the inventory to get to the net orderly liquidation value.
- 13 Q And you contend that the Tiger report that you relied
- 14 on for your NOLV figure includes those expenses, correct?
- 15 A I do.
- 16 Q And you testified to that fact at your deposition,
- 17 | correct?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q And you didn't do any sort of independent verification
- of those -- of that figure, correct?
- 21 A I did in the sense that I verified that the information
- 22 that the Tiger appraisal reports is based on came from the
- 23 management of the company.
- 24 Q How did you do that?
- 25 A It's mentioned throughout in the Tiger appraisal report

- 1 that they're relying on information from the company.
- 2 Q But you didn't do anything independent of reviewing and
- 3 relying upon the Tiger report itself, correct?
- 4 A Well, I did because there were other data points in
- 5 terms of net orderly liquidation value that ran through the
- 6 case. And so, I could compare and see that the 88.7 percent
- 7 net orderly liquidation value that I was using was lower
- 8 than what other parties were using to calculate net orderly
- 9 liquidation value, because what the evidence indicates that
- 10 other parties used values ranging from 90 percent up to 93
- 11 percent, including direct and indirect costs in getting to
- 12 that 90 to 93 percent.
- 13 Q The Tiger report does not include all expenses that
- 14 | will be incurred in a going concern sales scenario, does it?
- 15 A No. Because the premise -- well, the premise of value
- 16 that I used in my report was net -- company-wide going-out-
- 17 of-business sales orderly liquidation.
- 18 Q And that leads me to my next question. You did a
- 19 valuation as of petition date that assumed an orderly
- 20 | liquidation of Sears, correct?
- 21 A I did.
- 22 Q An orderly liquidation of Sears is not what happened in
- 23 February of 2019, correct?
- 24 A Fortunately, Sears was able to not have an orderly
- 25 liquidation. However, as a valuator, I have to deal with

- what's known or knowable as of the measurement date.
- 2 Q So I just want to be clear because the rest of left for
- 3 the Court. You did a valuation as of the petition date that
- 4 is different than what actually happened in this case,
- 5 correct?
- 6 A At the end, yes.
- 7 Q Thank you. The types of expenses that the Tiger report
- 8 doesn't capture but that would occur in a going concern
- 9 scenario, such as we have here, will be professional fees,
- 10 financing fees, or perhaps post-petition interest, correct?
- 11 A I -- there are some professional fees that are included
- 12 in an orderly liquidation valuation analysis. There may be
- other professional fees that aren't included. I don't have
- 14 enough visibility into that. And interest is not included.
- 15 Q Ms. Murray, you didn't do any calculation for 506(c)
- 16 surcharges in a going concern scenario, correct?
- 17 A Correct.
- 18 Q Thank you. So I want to go back to the 507(b) chart.
- 19 Ms. Murray, to wrap this up, your collateral number under
- 20 this scenario is about 125 -- your total collateral figure
- 21 of 2.457 billion is about \$125 million more than Mr.
- 22 Griffith's calculation, correct?
- 23 A I don't believe that's correct because I don't think
- 24 it's an apples-to-apples comparison.
- Q Okay. Well, would you agree that \$2.457 billion is

Pg 127 of 333 Page 127 1 about \$125 million more than 2.334 billion? 2 I would agree mathematically --3 Q Thank you. -- that's correct. 4 And your 1L deck number is \$429 million less than Mr. 5 6 Griffiths because of -- because you don't include the two 7 letters of credit to the tune of 395 million and you don't 8 include post-petition interest, correct? 9 I don't include the letters of credit and I don't 10 include post-petition interest, correct. 11 And that makes your number \$429 million less than Mr. 12 Griffiths, correct? 13 If you represent that's the math. 14 Thank you. And 429 million plus 125 million difference 15 in collateral value is about 550 million, correct? Rough 16 math? 17 I don't have my calculator here. 18 Q Okay. And it's not calc- -- if it's not -- it's not 19 20 calculated on the page. 21 Q Okay. Then will you accept my -- the numbers are what 22 they are, right? If you took those numbers, if you subtracted those numbers from your total 507(b) calculation 23 24 of 492 million, you end up with about negative 60, wouldn't

you?

Page 128 1 In the minimum case. 2 Thank you very much. 3 And assuming that all of those hypothetical 4 calculations are appropriate. 5 Thank you. 6 MR. GENENDER: Pass the witness. 7 THE COURT: Okay. Redirect? 8 MR. LIUBICIC: Yes, Your Honor. 9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF MARTI MURRAY 10 BY MR. LIUBICIC: 11 So Ms. Murray, you were asked some questions about your 12 reliance on the Tiger appraisal. Do you recall that? 13 Α Yes. 14 Okay. And Ms. Murray, are you a certified valuation 15 analyst? 16 I am. 17 And are you familiar with the National Association of 18 Certified Valuation Analysts? 19 I am. 20 Can we call that NACVA? 21 Α Yes. 22 Does NACVA have professional standards that guide valuation practice? 23 24 Α It does. 25 And do those standards speak to reliance on third-party

Pg 129 of 333 Page 129 1 specialists? 2 Yes. And what do those standards say about reliance on 3 third-party specialists? 4 5 That as evaluator, it's appropriate in some cases to 6 rely on third-party specialists to value specific types of 7 assets. Do you consider Tiger a third-party specialist? 8 9 I consider both Tiger and Abacus specialists in 10 the valuation of inventory. 11 And why did you consider it appropriate to rely on 12 Tiger for aspects of your analysis? 13 Because the work of Tiger is a specialist in evaluation of inventory. Tiger had been retained by the collateral 14 15 agent for the banks. And the banks had an interest in 16 having the collateral appropriately valued so that they knew 17 what they were lending against and, therefore, I viewed the 18 Tiger appraisals as being conservative. And I felt that 19 they also did not include in their inventory that they were 20 applying the NOLV to certain categories of inventory that I 21 felt likely had value. And so, they were done 22 contemporaneously right around the time of the filing, and they were not done in a context of litigation. 23

Do you know whether Sears' management relied on Tiger?

Sears' management relied on Tiger in determining the

24

- 1 borrowing base percentages.
- 2 Q And now a minute ago, you mentioned Abacus; what's
- 3 Abacus?
- 4 A Abacus is a professional firm that specializes in
- 5 helping retailers liquidate inventory. Prior to the filing,
- 6 they had assisted the debtor liquidate between 700 and 800
- 7 stores. And they were retained as part of the bankruptcy to
- 8 assist with the going-out-of-business store sale process
- 9 during the bankruptcy, and they also provided a bid to
- 10 | liquidate the remaining stores if the company decided to go
- 11 down the route of a company-wide going-out-of-business sale.
- 12 Q And in addition to Tiger, does the work of Abacus
- 13 inform your expert analysis?
- 14 A I'm sorry?
- 15 Q In addition to Tiger, does the work of Abacus inform
- 16 your expert analysis?
- 17 A It does.
- 18 Q How so?
- 19 A Because it's another firm that specializes in valuing
- 20 and liquidating inventory, working with the debtors'
- 21 management to determine what the debtor would realize if the
- debtor were to pursue a company-wide going-out-of-business
- 23 sale.
- 24 Q And did Abacus put forth any values that you rely on in
- 25 your report?

Pg 131 of 333 Page 131 1 Yes, they did. 2 And what were those? 3 Those values were in a range of approximately 90 to 93 4 percent, NOLV percentage. 5 Those were NOLVs. 6 Α Yes. 7 Okay. Did your work evaluate data put forth by anyone other than Tiger or Abacus? 8 9 Α Yes. 10 How so? 11 The debtors' chief restructuring officer, Mr. Meghji, 12 had put together a winddown plan for the company in which he 13 had assumed a 90 percent NOLV. The unsecured creditors' 14 committee had also put forward an analysis of a winddown, in 15 which they as well had assumed a 90 percent NOLV. 16 And did you rely on statements by Sears' CFO, Mr. 17 Riecker in your analysis? 18 Α Yes. Can you describe that please? 19 Yes. Mr. Riecker had a declaration in November of 20 21 2015, in which he stated that the net orderly liquidation 22 value of the inventory was 2.74 billion. And I think you just said November of 2015. Is that 23 24 what you meant to say? 25 I meant -- no, I'm sorry -- November of 2018.

1 Now, Ms. Murray, could you look at the very thin volume 2 that Mr. Genender asked you about, and specifically at the 3 first tab, the 507(b) diminution chart. Now, do you recall that when Mr. Genender asked you about the inventory value 4 5 row and the comparison of your inventory valued and Mr. 6 Griffith, you said that that was not apples-to-apples? 7 Α Yes. Okay. I think later, you also said that comparison 8 9 would not be apples-to-apples when it came to the total 10 collateral row. Do you recall that? 11 Yes. Α 12 What did you mean when you said the comparison to 13 Griffith -- Mr. Griffith was not apples-to-apples? 14 My inventory valuation is after the costs to maintain 15 and preserve the value of the collateral; whereas, Mr. 16 Griffith's inventory valuation is before costs to preserve 17 and maintain the collateral. And if you subtract what he is 18 saying are the necessary costs, which is the 1.451 billion, you get a very low value for the inventory. 19 20 MR. LIUBICIC: I'll pass the witness. 21 THE COURT: Okay. 22 RECROSS-EXAMINATION OF MARTI MURRAY BY MR. GENENDER: 23 24 Ms. Murray, did you -- you didn't undertake to do any 25 sort of valuation of the 2L collateral as of the sale date,

Page 133 1 February 11th, 2019, correct? 2 MR. LIUBICIC: Objection, Your Honor. Beyond the 3 scope of the redirect. 4 THE COURT: It is, I think. 5 Did you perform any analysis of any assets sold pre- or 6 post-petition other than inventory? 7 Α No. Did you perform any analysis of the actual costs 8 9 incurred in these cases, the actual costs? 10 Α No. 11 MR. GENENDER: Thank you, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: Ms. Murray, you testified about 13 relying in part on the Tiger appraisal. And your 14 assumption, I think, was that the liquidation would take 15 place over -- was it 11 weeks? 16 MS. MURRAY: Yes. 17 THE COURT: And that is a sale period that Tiger 18 puts in its appraisal. Are you aware that it also has a 19 six-month sale appraisal, a six-month liquidation analysis? 20 MS. MURRAY: Can you direct me to it? 21 THE COURT: It was on Page 10 of their report. 22 MS. MURRAY: The Tiger appraisal? 23 THE COURT: Yeah, of the Tiger report. MS. MURRAY: Yeah. I'm familiar with that. 24 25 think what that is is if the sale is started in that month,

Page 134 1 what they expected the percentage recovery to be. 2 THE COURT: So this isn't -- I was trying to 3 figure out what this meant. You read this to mean that it's 4 still an 11-week process? 5 MS. MURRAY: Correct. 6 THE COURT: But that the money would come in over 7 a period of six months? 8 MS. MURRAY: That if they --9 THE COURT: I'm just trying to figure out what it 10 means. You tell me what you think this is. 11 MS. MURRAY: So if you read the first paragraph 12 there, it says, "Based upon company provided monthly 13 inventory projections, blended net recovery values for GOB 14 retail inventory and wholesale inventory were forecast for 15 sales commencing at the beginning of each of the six months 16 from October 2018 through March 2019." 17 So what I interpreted that to mean is if you 18 started the sales, the company-wide GOB in October 2018, 19 this is what you would get. 20 THE COURT: Over that six-month period. 21 MS. MURRAY: Over the -- no, over the 11-week, 22 over the period. 23 THE COURT: And then if you started it in November/December, it'd be different each time. 24 25 MS. MURRAY: Correct.

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1	THE COURT: I see. Okay, thanks. Anything on
2	that?
3	MR. GENENDER: Nothing further, Your Honor.
4	THE COURT: Okay. You can step down. Okay.
5	MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, does that conclude the
6	second lienholders evidentiary portion?
7	THE COURT: Well, that's a good point. Does it,
8	other than on rebuttal, I guess?
9	MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor
10	THE COURT: You got to cross-examine obviously on
11	the 506 and 507.
12	MR. MOLONEY: Correct. We're going to cross-
13	examine on 506(c). And I assume that all of the
14	designations are in evidence, that we all both designated
15	deposition testimony.
16	THE COURT: I think that's what's agreed, right?
17	MR. MOLONEY: Right.
18	THE COURT: Except for the footnote that you
19	referred me to earlier.
20	MR. MOLONEY: Then I think we've rested on this
21	section of the case.
22	THE COURT: Okay.
23	MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, if I may. In light of
24	the fact that the second lienholders have rested, the
25	debtors will respectfully move on our 3012 motion under the

Page 136 1 grounds that the second lienholders have not met their 2 burden to establish, under 507(b), a diminution of value and 3 would submit that if you take into account under any of the 4 evidence they put forward -- the letters of credit, the 5 items included which shouldn't have been included, they 6 didn't do tracing, and the fact that one witness did an 7 analysis, the last witness did an analysis that's the wrong 8 analysis for when you have a going concern and the other 9 witnesses --10 THE COURT: Well, I get the point. I'm not going 11 to -- I'm going to take a break though for lunch --12 MR. GENENDER: Fair enough. 13 THE COURT: -- before I hear that --14 MR. GENENDER: Thank you. 15 THE COURT: -- that motion. 16 MR. GENENDER: I just want to make for the record. 17 THE COURT: That's fine. 18 MR. GENENDER: Thank you. THE COURT: While you're at lunch, I'd like the 19 20 parties to consider the effect, if anything, on the 507(b) 21 analysis of the carveout under the DIP order and cash 22 collateral order. It appears on Page 61, Paragraph 21 of the final order. 23 And there are also references to it in connection 24

with the 507(b) claim that's in subparagraph (d) that starts

53 and carries over to Page 54, which says that such adequate protection claims shall be junior to, among other things, the carveout. And the carveout until (indiscernible) includes all the -- well, you can read it, but it includes all the professional fees, with a limited exception for success fees, although there's an exception to that on Page 66.

No one's really addressed this in their papers, and I'd like you to tell me how it affects the 506 -- I'm sorry, the 507(b) analysis, since the 507(b) claim is subject to those amounts. And I think it probably also affects the 506(c) analysis.

I'd also like you to address where in the record there's anything as to the status of the winddown account. And, obviously, there's a stipulation that was entered into that is part of the record that puts the winddown account in play for a certain period. But I'm just curious as to how that affects the analysis of the 507(b) claim since I don't see a deduct for it anywhere for the carveout and, of course, I don't know what that number is either.

THE COURT: Okay. So it's 1:30. Why don't we come back at 2:30.

MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, we did address that last question in the Schulte declaration.

THE COURT: The winddown.

Page 138 1 MR. MOLONEY: The winddown. 2 THE COURT: Yeah. I just want to know where in the record -- I want to make sure I'm clear in where the 3 record those numbers are. 4 5 MR. MOLONEY: I have it in my handout, the next 6 I took it up because you said you weren't going to 7 talk about the cash collateral order. I thought we weren't 8 going to get into it, but it is a deduct. 9 THE COURT: When did I say that? 10 MR. MOLONEY: We heard it with those. The debtor 11 suggested that the cash collateral was not for today. 12 THE COURT: No, no. I'm talking about how it 13 relates to 507. 14 MR. MOLONEY: Thank you, Judge. 15 THE COURT: It may not relate at all. But if 16 people are counting that. 17 MR. MOLONEY: It does. It does, Your Honor. 18 THE COURT: Okay. So I would not leave anything 19 valuable here, but you can leave everything else. 20 [RECESS] 21 THE COURT: Okay. We're back on the record in In 22 Re. Sears Holdings Corporation, et al. MR. SCHROCK: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Ray 23 24 Schrock, Weil Gotshal, for the debtors. Just very quickly, 25 at least we can give you our view as to the two questions

that you asked before we took a break.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. SCHROCK: The first question was the effect, if any, of the carveout on the DIP order on the 507(b) analysis.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. SCHROCK: And, Your Honor, in being fair about that, we do note, as Your Honor correctly noted, that under the terms of the DIP order, all adequate protection obligations are junior to the entire winddown account. The carveout that -- I'm sorry, the carveouts rather. The carveout funding to date is \$213.4 million; that's something that Mr. Griffith has personal knowledge of, and he could so inform the court.

We think it affects the analysis is that when you look at the assets available for 507(b), I think you just take that number off of the top of what's available for 507(b) claim. So, Your Honor, they could still argue for an adequate protection, but those assets are simply not there from the starting delta. When you make those adjustments, and then we, I think appropriately, would take out some of the profession- -- you know, we had \$51 million of professional fees that were in our 506(c) analysis, and we can have Mr. Griffith walk through some of this when he -- if the Court [AUDIO DISTORTION].

THE COURT: (indiscernible) is here.

MR. SCHROCK: I don't know how we do it with that mic? But it's pretty amazing. So that must have said something to have gotten some --

THE COURT: Well, you're saying you take it off the top.

MR. SCHROCK: Yeah, you take it off the top. I think that's the fair way. Those assets just aren't -- simply aren't available for purposes of the -- I'm not saying that -- listen, they could still argue, right, for a 507(b) claim that is junior. But I think those assets are -- they're out of the equation when you look at what's the starting point from which you start arguing for a 507(b) claim.

On the winddown account itself, Judge, I -- those assets under the terms of the DIP order were specifically, you know, they're unencumbered collateral, they weren't coming out, and they weren't available to the second liens.

Now, we did enter into a stipulation that noted, for any -- if there's -- you know, from April 15th through, you know, I think it's August 1, if there's something that had to be reallocated, that's a remedy that's available.

If Your Honor found a 507(b) claim, he could certainly take it out of the account, but I don't see how it would be really relevant to the 507(b) analysis, per se.

But we will have Mr. Griffith available to --

THE COURT: Is there anything in that account?

3 MR. SCHROCK: Yes, there's roughly, I think it's

4 \$53 million is in there, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: But obviously was nothing there on the petition date. It's all post-petition.

MR. SCHROCK: Correct. It's generated from asset sales, unencumbered asset sales post-petition. So that's our view, at least the debtors' view on the questions you asked.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, may not be a huge surprise, but it was somewhat (indiscernible). I just get the documents in front of me and we can kind of walk through the provisions together. And looking at the DIP order, I think the first paragraph Your Honor properly directed us to look at was on Page 49 of the DIP order, Paragraph D. And you start with the liens, Your Honor, because I think this exercise, why I wanted to move this to a motion under 3012, rather than a 507(b) is because that's kind of like the cart before the horse.

The first exercise is to find out, do we have a claim after the sale order and after all those orders.

Second, if we do have a claim, was it fully secured or partially secured as to the filing date. And I think that's

the second question you have to answer for yourself is find out what are secured claims at the filing date; then you have to look at the question of what's left to satisfy the claim, which in part relates to your question about what happens to a replacement lien on a winddown account.

And only if our adequate protection liens are inadequate, do we get to 507(b), and we've shown the diminution in property. So I think, to my mind, that's the logical way to attack this problem, and I think that's the way to look at these two provisions. And I think in a big picture, there's a bargain that was done at the beginning of this case.

The bargain was, we're going to get a junior DIP in place, we're going to create a separate winddown account. And second lien creditors, you're not -- you're going to come behind all those things and you're going to come behind -- and you're also going to come behind the carveout account in the sense that you're not going to be able to invade that account to satisfy your second lien obligations.

And the quid pro quo on day one of this case in the order the Court entered was that we got, under Paragraph D, an adequate protection lien, and that included for any diminution in value as a result of this bargain, as a result of the creation of these accounts. And so since it's a

result -- and diminution value is a result of the creation of the carveout account basically is something which enhances our ability to have -- ultimately have a 507(b) claim in this case.

So it's not a number that doesn't count. The fact that they put money into the winddown account means that that was while we got -- rather, the carveout account, that's why we got the adequate protection lien because the property was not going to be our property; and, in fact, was going to be our collateral. Point of fact, that's what happened was our collateral, in fact, that funded that account, including as recently as last week when out of the \$6 million -- \$8 million ESL turned over right before the APA hearing, they put \$6 million in the carveout account. So we funded that account, and the quid pro quo for that was to the extend that diminished our collateral position, we got a lien that says.

Now, if we go to the second section, Paragraph 18, dealing with the administrative claims and the two priority claims of our -- of the second lien creditors, which is on Page 53, Paragraph D. What this says is that, look, you have a super-priority claim, but that claim is not going to trump what assets have been put into the carveout account. So whatever claim you have, it should never limitation on your recovery rights with respect to that claim. You can't

Page 144 1 invade property that's properly in the carveout account. 2 THE COURT: Well, the winddown account isn't 3 collateral anyway. MR. MOLONEY: We have, but for the stipulation we 4 5 entered into at the beginning of the case part of the grand 6 bargain, which gave us these adequate protection rights, was 7 that the winddown account was going to be sacrosanct and we'd have no right to invade it whatsoever. For super-8 9 priority claims, (indiscernible) -- I don't know if you just 10 gave us a right we don't have under the agreements. We 11 don't have a 507(b) claim against the winddown account. 12 The only claim we have against the winddown account is a replacement lien, based on the stipulation Your 13 14 Honor entered; otherwise, we have no other claim. That was 15 part of why that money was set aside because the source 16 through that --17 THE COURT: I think you actually agree with the 18 debtors on that point. MR. MOLONEY: Yeah. Because the source through 19 20 that account, remember, was supposed to be from the sale of 21 unencumbered assets. 22 THE COURT: Right. 23 MR. MOLONEY: And we were not -- and normally, in 24 a -- there's nothing particularly normal about this case. With all due respect, I'm coming in late to the normal, you 25

know, from your run of the mill DIP financing, all of the assets that were unsecured before suddenly become available for the DIP lenders (indiscernible) as a secured claim or a 507(b) claim. We carved out a \$250 million tranche and said we don't have that.

But, Your Honor, I think the quid pro quo for that is that we got these 507(b) rights and we got these adequate protection rights. And, you know, I think what they're doing -- and this was -- I was going to save this for my argument, Your Honor, but what they're doing is that they're kind of reneging on the deal.

Fundamentally, this motion is a renege, a renege on a bargain because they're saying that even though we've got this right because of our putting money in the carveout account, we now want to charge you again for the money we put in the carveout account to reduce your claim, and that doesn't make any sense.

It's also their argument that even though you got this money specifically because you were going to put in -- we're putting prior debt ahead of you and we're going to use your collateral to pay the interest on that debt, that's why we got these rights. Now, we're going to make you pay that again. I mean, that effectively --

CLERK: The microphone.

MR. MOLONEY: Sorry. That meant effectively they

Page 146 gave us nothing; effectively. This order was worthless from the outset because the rights that they were giving to us, they said effectively we can take back. THE COURT: Well, except there was an agreement to have the carveout be senior. MR. MOLONEY: We're not quarreling on that. But what they're saying now is they want to reallocate the expenses that have been paid. THE COURT: No, I understand that point. I'm just focusing on the --MR. MOLONEY: I agree with Your Honor; we have no problem with that. But this reallocation is a renege in terms of the basic agreement because --THE COURT: What reallocation are you talking about; the 506(c)? MR. MOLONEY: The 506(c) chart. THE COURT: No, I'm just focusing on the --MR. MOLONEY: Okay. THE COURT: -- on the carveout. MR. MOLONEY: Right. And then, Your Honor, if I can answer the second question. I have a handout -- if I can approach the bench -- on the winddown -- on what happens with your replacement lien. It's the impact for that on our 507(b) claims, and the source from the Schulte report. Your Honor, may I approach the bench?

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Pg 147 of 333 Page 147 1 THE COURT: Sure. 2 MR. SCHROCK: We had a handout too, Judge, but I decided (indiscernible). 3 THE COURT: Thanks. 4 5 MR. MOLONEY: This is just saying that -- I know 6 you have a lot of pieces of paper we dumped on you, and I'm 7 sorry, Your Honor. But this is from the Schulte 8 Declaration, which was when you asked for the declaration 9 (indiscernible) report, it was a little bit different 10 because it dealt exclusively with the subject. 11 And just to tell you what this tells you, is that 12 the first column, 4/27 to 7/20, 2019; that brings us to 13 today. And it just tells you that this is the cash, which 14 is our cash collateral as replacement liens, that they have 15 spent in the time we filed our motion saying stop, and they 16 mull over how --17 THE COURT: Right. Didn't this all -- this goes to the winddown issue. 18 MR. MOLONEY: Exactly. And so, that gets us as of 19 20 today a \$39 million claim, which we would claim if Your 21 Honor finds that we were -- that we have a diminution of our 22 -- if finds, depending on what amount Your Honor finds to be our secure claim at the beginning, this \$39 million will be 23 24 a deduct from that claim before we ever go to 507(b).

Because that would -- because we have our adequate

protection liens still are in place, and those adequate protection liens still have a prior claim on the asset under the stipulation.

Our adequate protection liens also have a prior claim on the \$71 million that the debtor is projecting to come in from here on in, which is the second column.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MOLONEY: And that's ahead in the day. I just wanted you to claim that -- I think that's the way --

THE COURT: And there may be a factual -- I don't know if there's a factual about these numbers as opposed to how, where there isn't a factual dispute is how the parties are looking at the winddown account.

MR. SCHROCK: Yes, Judge. I mean, our point was simply that the money -- no one dispute the money in the carveout account is not -- is senior; and, therefore, we thought that the appropriate way to deal with it was just to take it out from the starting point for the 507(b) claim. They don't have a claim to it. That doesn't meant that they still don't -- they still can't argue for a diminution in value claim, but I think the starting point, it's not assets from which they could --

THE COURT: Recover.

MR. SCHROCK: -- recover.

THE COURT: So you, you -- okay. You don't

contend then that this is part and parcel of the adequate protection bargain; in other words, that they gave up on recovering on this.

MR. SCHROCK: I don't contend that they don't have an adequate protection claim at all for a bite or two at the -- you know, a bite or two of the carveout account. I just think that it's appropriate that the assets from which they can recover don't include the -- don't include those funds. They haven't put any proof in as to whether or not that was even their collateral, of course.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, can I just make one footnote, just a footnote observation, in essence, for a future date, but I want to make sure I didn't waive this; is that when I said that we don't have any claim to the money in the carveout account. That's two caveats: one, the money is properly put in the carveout account, and if Your Honor finds this money was improperly put into the carveout account that's obviously -- I mean, we reserve on; and second is it's only for allowed claims, by definition, the carveout account only allows.

THE COURT: Sure, of course. That's right.

MR. MOLONEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. And to the extent provided for in the carveout provisions.

Page 150 1 MR. MOLONEY: Right. Yes, Your Honor. 2 MR. SCHROCK: And, Your Honor, I mean, just -- I'm 3 not sure if I'm making the point, you know, articulately. We do have a -- we have a chart that kind of -- we really 4 5 view that carveout account; effectively, it makes it senior 6 debt, you know, and puts it, you know, appropriately in that 7 category. There's another, you know, \$213.4 million of senior debt that it's effectively gotten, you know, ahead of 8 9 the second lien. THE COURT: Well, that was my -- that's really my 10 11 ultimate question, which is the briefing and the demonstrative of the 507(b) diminution calculations. When 12 13 it refers to senior debt; it doesn't refer to that. It 14 refers to the bank debt. 15 MR. MOLONEY: That's not senior debt, Your Honor. 16 If that, that clearly under the agreement, that's clearly 17 not senior debt. It's senior only in the sense that by us 18 permitting it to be senior, we're given a right -- so basically, to be reimbursed under our adequate protection 19 20 liens and under our 507(b) for money put into that account. 21 So it's senior -- our agreement --22 MR. SCHROCK: So you're saying it was their 23 collateral claim. 24 MR. MOLONEY: Yes. It's not (indiscernible). 25 language cannot be clearer in the agreement, Your Honor,

when it says that because of any loss -- any loss of value

because of money put into the winddown account will go back

-- I can go back and look at it again under 50- -- but it -
THE COURT: I'm not focusing on the winddown. I'm

focusing on the carveout.

MR. MOLONEY: Rather, on the carveout account.

Let me just stay with it for a second. On the carveout account, getting back to originally, because he did not

9 argue his first time up that it was senior debt put up in

11 liens -- and this is Page 51 -- now where is it -- 49, Page

the carveout account. But it says, for adequate protection

12 49. Page 49 says --

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THE COURT: You'd have a lien against aggregate net diminution in value of your collateral.

MR. MOLONEY: Right, resulting from any diminution, and diminution includes as a result of the priming by the second lien facilities and the subordination to the carveout. So that -- I think that's clear that to the extent that we become diminished as a result of the carveout and our new collateral is not adequate, that's our claim today.

MR. FOX: And, Your Honor, with respect to -Edward Fox. With respect to the first lien point. I don't
have my finger on the section, but the first lien provided
that to the extent that the carveout was funded, the first

lien amount was diminished by that same amount, so that they weren't lending more than the total amount by virtue of the addition of the carveout funds. So there's not some additional amount that was funding the carveout that was added onto the first lien debt that somehow pushed us deeper into subordination, you know, subordinate us more deeply.

But to Mr. Moloney's point is right. Although we may not be able to invade the professional fee carveout account itself, the order clearly provides that we're entitled to adequate protection, both a lien and a superpriority claim, to the extent that we are subordinated to the carveout. So the extent that they take money off the top, put it in the carveout account, we should get a dollar-for-dollar adequate protection lien or super-priority claim if they don't have funds available.

THE COURT: If it's there.

MR. FOX: I'm sorry?

THE COURT: If it's there.

MR. FOX: Well, we can't --

MAN 1: If it's there that (indiscernible)

21 collateral.

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MR. FOX: We can't get a lien if it's not there --

THE COURT: Right.

MR. FOX: -- or if there's no funds available. We can certainly get a super-priority claim, which will have to

Page 153 1 be dealt with in some way, shape or form. 2 THE COURT: Okay. 3 MR. FOX: And we have -- one of the joint exhibits 4 has the very recent status of the cash flow and has at least 5 some of the current numbers. What's that joint exhibit 6 number? 7 THE COURT: But then again goes to the stipulation 8 and the like. 9 MR. FOX: No -- well, it goes to the total number. 10 If you're interested in seeing what the finances look like--11 THE COURT: Fine. 12 MR. FOX: -- that's the most recent. 13 THE COURT: Okay. All right. 14 MR. FOX: Judge, just --15 THE COURT: All right, that's fine. I just wanted 16 to make sure we were on the same page. And, despite a brief 17 detour about two minutes ago, I think we are. MR. GENENDER: Okay, fair enough. Are you ready 18 for us to proceed with our case, Your Honor? 19 20 THE COURT: Well, you had a motion pending. 21 MR. GENENDER: We did. 22 THE COURT: I thought about it over lunch, and I'm 23 going to hear from Mr. Griffith anyway on 506(c). I think I ought to hear him on both issues. And then I'll rule after 24 25 hearing oral argument, as opposed to just ruling on the 507

Page 154 1 case by the 2L creditors. 2 MR. GENENDER: Understood. Your Honor, with that, we can call -- we're going to call Brendan Aebersold. We've 3 been told that the other side does not have cross-4 5 examination of him, but we'll call him now and allow you to-6 7 THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: -- take his evidence. 8 9 THE COURT: That's fine. 10 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I have a copy of his 11 declarations for you. THE COURT: Okay, that's fine. Yeah, that would 12 help. Would you raise your right hand, pleas? Do you swear 13 14 or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing 15 but the truth, so help you God? 16 [WITNESS BRANDON AEBERSOLD SWORN IN] 17 MR. AEBERSOLD: I do. 18 THE COURT: And could you spell your last name, please, for the record. 19 20 MR. AEBERSOLD: A-E-B-E-R-S-O-L-D. 21 THE COURT: Okay. And, Mr. Aebersold, you 22 submitted three declarations in this case -- with respect to these contested matters. One dated October 15th, 2018 on a 23 24 petition date, and then that's really more, I believe, just 25 standing on its own. But the two that I'm going to ask you

Page 155 1 about are one dated February 1, 2019 and one dated January 2 27, 2019. It's the 27 one that would be his direct 3 testimony, right? 4 MR. GENENDER: That's correct, Your Honor. 5 THE COURT: Okay. 6 MR. GENENDER: It references the other one. 7 THE COURT: All right. The other two are incorporated in it. So sitting there today, knowing that 8 9 the June 27th declaration would be your direct testimony, is 10 there anything you'd like to change in it? 11 MR. AEBERSOLD: No, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: Okay, all right. And no cross-13 examination; is that correct? Okay. So you can step down 14 now. 15 MR. AEBERSOLD: Thank you, Your Honor. 16 MR. GENENDER: And then next, Your Honor, the 17 debtors would call Brian Griffith. 18 THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: May I approach, Your Honor? 19 20 THE COURT: Sure. Okay. Would you raise your 21 right hand, please? 22 MR. GRIFFITH: Yes. 23 THE COURT: Do you swear or affirm to tell the 24 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help 25 you God?

Page 156 1 MR. GRIFFITH: I do. 2 [WITNESS BRIAN GRIFFITH SWORN IN] THE COURT: And it's G-R-I-F-F-I-T-H? 3 4 MR. GRIFFITH: That's correct, yes. 5 THE COURT: So, Mr. Griffith, you submitted three 6 declarations in connection with these contested matters: one dated May 26th, 2019, one dated June 27th, 2019, and one 7 8 dated July 18, 2019 that, subject to my earlier ruling at 9 the start of this hearing, would constitute your direct 10 testimony in this set of contested matters. Sitting here 11 today, is there anything you'd like to change in them? 12 MR. GRIFFITH: No, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So you can go ahead 14 with cross. 15 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, may we approach the 16 bench with a cross-examination binder for the witness as 17 well? THE COURT: Yeah, that's fine. 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION OF BRIAN GRIFFITH 19 20 BY MR. MOLONEY: 21 Good afternoon, Mr. Griffith. Are you ready? 22 Α I am. 23 Okay, good. And you're testifying today as a fact 24 witness and not as an expert, correct? 25 That's correct.

Page 157 1 And you did not submit an expert report, correct? 2 I have not. 3 And were you aware that there was an agreement among 4 the parties to provide any document relied upon by the 5 expert in his report for his or her conclusion one business 6 date following delivery of the expert report? 7 I wasn't aware of that, but I'm not an expert witness. I'm a fact witness. 8 9 Would you look at the -- at Exhibit 2 in your binder? 10 And if you look at that email, I take it that you were not 11 aware of this agreement, that the parties agreed to exchange 12 backup material for expert reports one day after reports 13 were filed, correct? 14 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I'm going to object. 15 This is an (indiscernible). 16 THE COURT: Well, he can -- are you aware of it? 17 MR. GRIFFITH: I'm not aware of it. 18 THE COURT: Okay. And you didn't deliver any documents to the second lien 19 20 parties that were backed up to your declaration one day 21 after you filed -- one day after they were filed before your 22 deposition, correct? 23 I'm not sure I follow the question. 24 Your second declaration was filed a few days before 25 your deposition, correct?

- A That sounds correct, yes.
- 2 Q And you did not deliver any documents to the second
- 3 lien party one day following your declaration as backup for
- 4 the information in your declaration, either your first or
- 5 second declaration, correct?

- 6 A I believe we produced the documents. I don't --
- 7 Q Did you deliver any documents that were backup? Did
- 8 you deliver Exhibit I -- or excuse me -- G to your current
- 9 report one day after your --
- 10 THE COURT: Well, it's not a report.
- 11 Q -- current declaration. Did you deliver G or I to us
- 12 one day after your declaration?
- 13 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I'm going to object.
- 14 THE COURT: Well, are you contending, Mr. Moloney,
- that somehow there's a breach of this agreement dealing with
- 16 expert reports?
- 17 MR. MOLONEY: I think Your Honor has expressed the
- 18 view that there's no difference between him being a fact
- 19 witness and an expert. But I actually think --
- 20 THE COURT: No, no. I said he's not an expert.
- 21 He's not testifying as an expert.
- MR. MOLONEY: Correct. Okay, so then those
- 23 documents, if they come in at all, are going to be only
- 24 summary exhibits, which we had to be given reasonable data
- in advance under reasonable circumstances. And I believe,

Page 159 1 as we continue this examination, I may have a basis to 2 object to those documents to summary exhibits. 3 MR. GENENDER: May I respond briefly? MR. MOLONEY: Well, I haven't made the motion yet, 4 5 Your Honor. I'm just telling you why I'm asking these 6 questions. 7 THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, Mr. Griffith's second 8 9 declaration was on June 27th. His deposition was actually 10 on July 10th. Those are matters of fact. 11 THE COURT: Okay. 12 MR. GENENDER: His most recent declaration was 13 last Thursday, the deadline agreed to for direct testimony. 14 Everything -- which is when his second supplemental 15 declaration was presented, all of that backup -- all of the 16 backup associated with it was produced contemporaneously 17 with it, including all the backup. I'm just representing that to the Court because that's --18 THE COURT: Well, is the backup part of the agreed 19 20 exhibits? 21 MR. GENENDER: The backup --22 THE COURT: Except for the two ESL presentations? 23 MR. GENENDER: The backup -- certain of the backup 24 is not on the exhibit list; they're exhibits to the second 25 declaration, just because they're raw data.

Page 160 1 THE COURT: Okay. 2 MR. GENENDER: Thank you. MR. MOLONEY: I'll come back to those exhibits 3 4 later, Your Honor. I'm going to go somewhere else. 5 In both your first and second declarations, you used 6 the same starting book value for inventory, as my expert 7 David Schulte did in his report, correct? 8 I believe in the first. I don't believe that's correct 9 in the second. 10 Well, let's take a look at the second declaration. 11 you have it in front of you? 12 I do. 13 And in your second declaration -- in your supplemental 14 declaration, right, it's your second declaration, right? In 15 your second, you have a chart, and that chart is on Page 6 16 of your second supplemental declaration, correct? 17 Α Yes. 18 And the \$2.76 billion number, which you say total gross collateral. What do you have as -- what component of that 19 20 is inventory? 21 I don't think that was the number on the page. 22 Okay. But I'm asking you, what component of it is 23 inventory? Of the 2.746? 24 25 Q Yes.

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- 1 A I believe it's the 2 billion 690.8.
- 2 Q And that's the same number that Mr. Schulte used,
- 3 right?
- 4 A I would need a copy of his declaration.
- 5 Q Okay.
- 6 A But from whatever I'm looking at here, it's not.
- 7 Q You have it in front of you in your book. If you go to
- 8 Exhibit No. 3 and you look at page -- it's a report that's
- 9 an exhibit to that, and you look to the Page 7 of that
- 10 report, you'll see in the chart at the top, it shows 2.691;
- 11 that's the same number you used, right?
- 12 A That's right.
- 13 Q And that's the same number you applied your 85 percent
- 14 number against, right?
- 15 A That's correct.
- 16 Q So if he used the same number as you used, what is the
- 17 basis for your criticizing his choice of a number?
- 18 A Well, he's using full book value.
- 19 0 I understand.
- 20 A Not the fair market value.
- 21 Q I understand you disagree with the 85 percent versus
- 22 | 100 percent discount. Putting that aside, for the starting
- 23 number, he's using the same number as you. So why do you
- 24 criticize him for that choice?
- 25 A I think I criticize him for the value, not the starting

Pg 162 of 333 Page 162 1 point. 2 To the extent your clients -- you were here when Okay. Mr. Genender said there should be a \$300 million adjustment 3 in Mr. Schulte's analysis based on his starting number. You 4 5 don't agree with that, right? 6 MR. FOX: Misstates the evidence. 7 0 I thought he said -- I thought the -- but the amount of ineligible collateral under the borrowing base is \$300 8 9 million, right, Mr. Griffith? 10 It's approximately. 11 And the \$300 million deduct that was in -- you can take 12 look at this slender volume again or I can hand it up --13 that the \$300 million deduct that they -- that was 14 complained about from Mr. Schulte was because he didn't use 15 the same number in the borrowing base, right? 16 It's because he's using the full book value. 17 Okay. So in any event, you have no problem with him 18 starting with his number and not starting with the borrowing 19 base number; is that right? 20 MR. GENENDER: Objection, misstates the evidence. The number is from the borrowing base, his totals ledger 21 22 number. 23 MR. MOLONEY: Let me rephrase, Your Honor. 24 You have no problem when Mr. Schulte started with 25 2.691, rather than a lesser number for his starting

Page 163 1 analysis, putting aside what he used by way of a discount, 2 correct? 3 That's correct. Okay. Now -- so the only real quarrel with Mr. 4 5 Schulte's valuation of the inventory is that he used his 6 number, rather than 85 percent, correct? 7 Α That's correct. And the only reason why you used 85 percent was based 8 9 primarily on your interpretation of the APA and, 10 secondarily, on what you implied from the negotiations prior 11 to that, correct? 12 It's what I learned from the negotiations, as I took part in those and had the documentation from -- and 13 14 ultimately, the numbers wound up in the APA. 15 So other than the APA and the negotiations, you have no 16 view whatsoever as to what the correct value of the 17 inventory was at the petition date, right? 18 We're using 85 percent as the proxy based on that -what was realized in a sale between a willing buyer and 19 20 willing seller. 21 MR. FOX: Your Honor --22 But assuming that --Q MR. FOX: I'm going to object to that, because if 23 24 he's here as a fact witness, (indiscernible) judgments about 25 what the value should be on the petition date, and a fact

Page 164 1 witness isn't qualified to do that. If he has to testify as 2 to what the property sold for in February, so be it if he 3 has personal knowledge. THE COURT: I thought that's what he did. He said 4 5 this was a proxy for --6 MR. FOX: But that's where he has to stop, because 7 he doesn't get involved with. 8 THE COURT: But that's when you objected. 9 MR. FOX: Well, that's right. 10 THE COURT: I think the question was going to go 11 in a different direction. 12 MR. MOLONEY: I would like to go in a different 13 direction, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: I don't think -- there's nothing you 15 can object to at this point. 16 MR. FOX: I agree, Your Honor. 17 I just want to -- I want to just be clear that if the 18 Court were to agree with us that you're not allowed to rely on your interpretation of the APA and you're not allowed to 19 20 rely on what you think the negotiation show as a value, you 21 have no other basis for your 85 percent number, correct? 22 That is the basis for my 85 percent, so that would be 23 yes. 24 MR. MOLONEY: Okay, Your Honor. At this point, 25 Your Honor, I would renew my motion to exclude those two

Page 165 exhibits and to preclude testimony on the subject. I'm 1 2 prepared to walk Your Honor through the APA. 3 THE COURT: Is there anything based on your 4 interpretation -- leave aside the negotiations that led up 5 to it, just focusing on the actual language of the APA. Is 6 there anything in that interpretation that the debtors' 7 counsel can't tell me? 8 MR. GENENDER: I think they understand the 9 agreement the same way as I do. 10 THE COURT: All right. So I'll sustain the --11 MR. MOLONEY: Thank you, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: -- the objection to the declaration. 13 MR. MOLONEY: Okay. And both of those exhibits, 14 Your Honor. I would move to exclude them. 15 THE COURT: Well, that's a separate issue because 16 I haven't decided yet whether it's plainly clear. 17 MR. GENENDER: Judge, the objection, just so I'm 18 clear, was sustained as to any testimony about --19 THE COURT: The meeting of the APA. 20 MR. GENENDER: Understood. 21 THE COURT: Right. 22 MR. GENENDER: Yes. 23 THE COURT: But I don't know yet. I mean, I haven't heard the parties as to whether it's ambiguous or 24 25 not.

MR. MOLONEY: I know. And, Your Honor, I will cross-examine him on his understanding if I thought that those exhibits were coming in. But if they're excluded, I will not go into it. So that's why I thought that was a threshold issue, with all due respect, Your Honor. So I'm prepared to argue that motion now.

THE COURT: About the plain meeting of the ADA --

MR. MOLONEY: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: -- APA, excuse me. Well, I think we should probably do that.

MR. MOLONEY: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

MR. GENENDER: Judge, can I address this? This is not parol evidence issue. This is a context of his understanding of the valuation, number one, and that's the context -- these are admissible documents; they're party admissions. Number two, they go to facts upon which he made computations. They can cross-examine him on that. They're their own representations, number one. And two, and I'm happy to let the ECC speak to this, Your Honor.

We had oral arguments as well, and they certainly go to equitable issues, certainly as to estoppel as to this -- as to Mr. Moloney's own client now taking contrary positions in this hearing than were taken in its presentations leading up to the APA. This is not a parol evidence to determine the meaning of the APA because we're

not trying to determine the meaning of it. Mr. Griffith has offered testimony, factual testimony, as to the value, fair market value of the assets in February of 2019. It's not a parol evidence issue; it's not an ambiguity.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MOLONEY: I think that's an argument, Your Honor. And I can respond to it after I make my argument, or I can make my argument.

THE COURT: Well, he did interrupt you, but you should make your argument.

MR. MOLONEY: Okay. Let me make my argument first if it means that it answers -- responds to his argument.

Your Honor, can I get indulged to look at the PowerPoint I gave you this morning.

THE COURT: I have it.

MR. MOLONEY: Okay, thank you. And this is -- it has two key definitions up front. One is required assets, which has the meaning set forth in Section 2.1; and second is purchase price, which has the meaning set forth in Section 3.1. And then if you turn the page, you see the definition of purchase price in Section 3.1.

We highlighted, I think, the language you really need to focus on, which is that it's an aggregate purchase price for purchase and sale of everything and shall consist of the following, and that's collectively the purchase

price. There are then nine levels of consideration. And so, you have an aggregate purchase price; you don't have a broken out purchase price for one aggregate purchase price for all of the assets.

Now, we go to 2.1 to see what did we get for aggregate purchase price. In 2.1, we get the purchase and sale of the acquired assets, which are defined, if you go to 2.1, as collectively the acquired assets. And we have 29 categories of acquired assets; inventory is not even a separate category. The separate category is that includes in inventory of one of the 29 categories is all acquired inventory, all acquired receivables, all acquired equipment, and all acquired improvements.

So we did not spend 85 cents to buy the inventory. It couldn't be clearer. But let's look at the one section they would like you to rely on, which is Section 10.9. It's the only section they've ever referred to. And looking at that section, which we also have here at Page 11, and it says, basically, it's just -- it's not a purchase price, it's not an allocation of value. It says that there's a minimum amount of assets that have to be delivered. The assets include three categories of documents -- of assets: inventory, credit card receivables and pharmacy receivables, which include pharmacy script. Those are the categories of assets that have to be delivered in an aggregate amount.

And to the extent this is any relevance, and I think that it's very little relevance, this provision, to anything, but if it has any relevance, to the extent that they over delivered, they have more assets on hand. Let's say they have extra pharmacy script on hand. Do they deduct it at 85 percent level? No. They deduct it at book value. They deduct the receivables at book level. They deduct the inventory at book value. They deduct the pharmacy receivables at a price of \$10 per receivable. That's the way this provision works.

which you can imply a value of inventory, and then get to the entire agreement provision. This agreement says you can't recreate how the sausage was made, in plain Brooklyn language. Basically, it says that this is the entire agreement, it supersedes all prior communications. And that, on to of New York's pro-evidence rule, means that he testimony they want to give, or the exhibits they want to rely on, are not permissible for purposes of enforcing or interpreting this agreement. To make it clear, Your Honor -

THE COURT: They're not enforcing or interpreting the agreement though, so I think they concede that point.

It wasn't entirely clear in the briefing leading up to this.

MR. MOLONEY: But they are interpreting the

agreement. If they're not interpreting the agreement, how are they getting it 85 percent price?

THE COURT: This is not a matter of contract, in other words. They're not relying on the party's contract.

They're relying on their party's discussions about value.

MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, that's what I

(indiscernible). The legal point was, I thought their point
was -- but maybe I missed their point completely -- was that
if you sold an asset for \$X, that was a fair value. That
implies that was the sales price.

THE COURT: I agree with you that that was a point that you could certainly read their briefing to state. But I think what they're stating is something different than that, because I agree with you and I think they agree with you, that the agreement itself does not allocate a purchase price. But there's a separate point that I think you need to address, which is that it -- I believe it's relevant evidence if in discussions, the parties put a value -- not for purposes of the agreement, not for purposes of enforcing the agreement in a particular way -- but just put a value on these assets, this collateral.

Now, for example, the Debtor has, as the three -- at least two of the experts -- relied on, provided, in various contexts in this case, either directly through Mr. Meghji, or through its agents, valuation analyses --

evidence of -- fact evidence of value. I think what Mr. Griffith wants to get to, and the Debtors want to get to, is similar evidence. Not evidence interpreting the APA, so that the APA could be enforced against your client, but just evidence that at some point during this process, maybe fairly early in the process, when people were thinking about the value of the collateral -- I mean, this is -- I haven't heard it yet, so don't know -- you know, here may be all sorts of ways to cross-examine him on that. Will -- the collateral or just pieces of the collateral, for example, that ESL, like the Debtors, discussed the value of the inventory. MR. MOLONEY: Let me continue going through this, just for a moment, Your Honor, and I'll come back to it. The bid letter, which we gave, our formal bid letter, which is attached here, also allocates all of the consideration, al the value. That as the December 28 bid letter. The January 9 bid letter --THE COURT: That's great for cross-examination. You can ask him that. MR. MOLONEY: And the global bidding procedures order provided for (indiscernible) allocations, and you had a hearing where they waived and there (indiscernible). THE COURT: This is not to enforce or interpret the APA.

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Page 172 1 MR. MOLONEY: Then I don't understand -- this is a 2 road to nowhere, Your Honor, because --THE COURT: Not necessarily. If Mr. Griffith is 3 4 going to testify that ESL's representative said in a 5 meeting, "I totally agree this is the way we need to value 6 the inventory," it's relevant and admissible, I think. 7 MR. MOLONEY: It would be hearsay. It could be an 8 admission but --9 THE COURT: But it would be an exception, yeah. 10 MR. MOLONEY: But that's not anything he'd put in 11 any declaration so far. 12 THE COURT: The exhibit, actually --13 MR. MOLONEY: The true exhibits do not purport to 14 be our opinion as to the value of the inventory. 15 THE COURT: Well, I don't know. I don't know. I 16 think you can cross-examine him on that. I don't think it's 17 -- put it differently: I don't think he would exclude it 18 without him trying to say what it is. 19 MR. MOLONEY: If the only relevant fact is, for 20 their argument, is that for fair value accounting, you look 21 at what an asset was sold at, if that's the reason why we're 22 getting the evidence --23 THE COURT: But that's not the reason. 24 MR. MOLONEY: If they're saying that this --25 THE COURT: I'm excluding it on that basis because

the purchase price doesn't say that. The purchase agreement doesn't that.

MR. MOLONEY: Okay. If it's excluded for that purpose, Your Honor, then I have no problem trying to understand -- though I must say I don't understand what purpose it could have as an analytical matter. But I'll continue my examination.

MR. SCHROCK: Can I just respond, Your Honor, please, for the record.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. SCHROCK: So, again, Ray Schrock for the Debtors. We looked at this and we said that Mr. Griffith, when he's looking at what facts, you know, determine value, there's the APA, there's the presentations that ESL gave, there's discussions in which Mr. Griffith participated. I think that all those things are relevant facts for purposes of determining how the Debtors assessed the value of the second lien collateral, and also what was actually paid for. And I would also note that as to the actual APA, we concede, the Court, it does not have an allocation. As we've said on the record there's nothing there.

As to whether or not, given there is no allocation, this would be relevant evidence. We've had an APA enforcement hearing where other parties have said, listen, and in fact, ESL said we need other evidence to

Page 174 1 actually interpret what people meant by these purchases. 2 And we're not here to concede the point that, you know, you shouldn't hear some of that evidence, actually, for what the 3 4 actual purchase price was paid under the terms of the 5 documents. 6 MR. MOLONEY: That was not an argument 7 (indiscernible), Your Honor. 8 THE COURT: The APA doesn't allocate this purchase 9 price. This is not a -- it would not be proper for me to 10 take parole evidence to interpret the APA. I don't think 11 the APA is ambiguous on this issue as to how the APA treats 12 the purchase price. But as far as how the parties to the 13 APA may have valued the inventory, that's another story. 14 MR. SCHROCK: Fair enough, Judge, just wanted to 15 be ... 16 THE COURT: Okay. 17 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, may I resume the examination? 18 THE COURT: Sure. 19 20 Okay, paragraph six of your declaration, do you have 21 that in front of you, Mr. Griffith? 22 Which one? Α 23 Your trial testimony declaration. 24 That's the supplemental? 25 Yes, the supplemental.

A Okay.

- 2 Q This is where you build up your analysis based on the
- 3 APA, that there was a 85 percent value associated with the
- 4 inventory, correct?
- 5 A That's right.
- 6 Q And basically, if I understand your argument, your
- 7 argument is that if you look at the, all the prior debt,
- 8 secured debt, that came ahead of the second lien position,
- 9 and you figure out how much money we paid off to satisfy
- 10 that debt, and you add \$433 million you get 85 cents, and
- 11 that's why you believe, that the APA supports your position.
- 12 Right?
- 13 A Not exactly. I mean, we also had the other senior LC
- 14 | facility that was ahead of the second liens, that's not in
- 15 this part of the APA definition.
- 16 Q Okay, that's what I was going to ask you, because if
- 17 you actually add the other senior LC facility, right, if you
- add the \$271 million and the \$135 million to your paragraph
- 19 six numbers, then we paid well over 100 percent of the
- 20 inventory value, right?
- 21 A The 271 stand-alone LC facility is accounted for in a
- 22 separate part of the APA so would not be considered as this
- 23 part of the definition.
- 24 Q I know you didn't put it in as part of your
- declaration, but your logic is that it basically, if you

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- 1 look at us paying off the prior, the debt that had prior
- 2 call on the assets, and you add on 433 you get 85 percent,
- 3 right, that was your logic?
- 4 A Well the ABL facility, which had the 124 million or
- 5 approximately thereof, of LCs under it, which is in the 850,
- 6 | plus the (indiscernible) facility, plus the second lien
- 7 credit bid, yes, that gets us to the billion 408 which is
- 8 also in those ESL documents.
- 9 Q And if you add in the 271 number you get over 100
- 10 percent, right?
- 11 A It's not part of the same collateral. It was cash
- 12 collateralized and not part of the borrowing base on ABL
- 13 first lien facility.
- 14 Q So, you're saying the 271 is not debt that comes ahead
- 15 of us?
- 16 A It does. It's just accounted for in a separate part of
- 17 the APA.
- 18 Q What do you mean, accounted for in a separate part of
- 19 the APA?
- 20 A If I had the APA I could look at the sections, but they
- 21 | have a separate section related to that facility, as part of
- 22 the sources and uses.
- 23 Q Are you saying the \$271 million, it has a prior claim
- 24 on the same inventory collateral, to our second lien debt,
- 25 or not?

Page 177 1 I'm saying it's senior to the second lien. 2 So, if you counted it, along with the other senior 3 debt, which you put in that paragraph six, you get to a number of 100 percent for the inventory, correct? 4 MR. GENENDER: Objection, asked and answered, Your 5 6 Honor. He's already explained that it relates to a 7 different set of assets. THE COURT: No, but I ... you're counting it 8 9 dollar for dollar, separately? 10 MR. GRIFFITH: It is, yes. 11 THE COURT: As opposed to 85 percent. 12 MR. GRIFFITH: The 271 million LC facility was assumed 100 percent as part of this transaction, yes. 13 14 What asset does it relate to in your mind? 15 I don't know which asset it's actually secured against. 16 I believe it's the same collateral but it's cash 17 collateralized by ESL and Cyrus. 18 THE COURT: Well, was the original facility cash collateralized, 271? 19 20 MR. GRIFFITH: It was, Your Honor, yes. 21 And that's why you assumed it would not be drawn, Q 22 right? It's still a material obligation that's real. It would 23 24 not be drawn, necessarily, but it would be an obligation, a 25 first lien obligation.

- 1 Q Now, you agree that both the ABL LC and the \$271
- 2 million Citibank LC we talked about -- they're standby LC's
- 3 right?
- 4 A That's correct.
- 5 Q And in a going concern context, those type of LCs are
- 6 not drawn if the company meets their obligation in a going
- 7 concern context, right?
- 8 A If they continue to make the payments that are due,
- 9 that would be correct.
- 10 Q And you didn't opine in either of your two declarations
- 11 that in a going concern context these contingent obligations
- 12 would actualize because you assumed that they would be
- assumed in any going concern sale by the buyer, right?
- 14 A We assume that they are assumed as part of the
- transaction, which they were, under the ESL transaction.
- 16 Q And I'd like you to look at paragraph -- at the Reicker
- 17 declaration, which is in your book as exhibit number four.
- 18 And I'd like you to look at paragraph eight. I'll represent
- 19 to you, this is a declaration in support of the priming
- 20 liens, the adequate protection we received that the junior
- 21 and senior DIPs -- in that context, Mr. Reicker says that
- 22 there's basically 1.3 billion borrowed against it under the
- 23 ABL facility, meaning all of the Debtors, right? And that's
- 24 in paragraph eight.
- 25 A That's what it says, yes.

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- 1 Q And that \$1.3 million, which he represented to the
- 2 Court as a condition to basically priming our lien, does not
- 3 include either of the LCs -- doesn't include either the ABL
- 4 LCs or the LCs that are cash collateralized at Citibank,
- 5 right?
- 6 A I believe that's correct, yes.
- 7 Q Now, were you involved in the preparation of the wind-
- 8 down analysis that is Joint Exhibit 14 and is in your book
- 9 at five?
- 10 A I was not.
- 11 Q This was an M-III production, right?
- 12 A Yes. I'm sure we had a part in preparing this, yes.
- 13 Q And if you look at the second page, the bullet point
- 14 under substantial funding through wind down is provided by,
- 15 it says, "The imposition of a four percent charge on
- 16 incumbent assets sold throughout the case, pursuant to
- 17 | 506(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, with the exception of first
- 18 | lien and prepetition ABL collateral (including non-insider
- 19 portions of the FILO and Citi LC), and junior DIP collateral
- 20 due to the 506 waivers granted to these lenders solely in
- 21 | their capacity as DIP lenders." See that?
- 22 A I do.
- 23 Q And if that four percent number was used as the
- 24 appropriate 506 surcharge in this case, you would get a
- 25 number of about \$66 million, right, ballpark?

- 1 A I'm not sure I get that from just looking at this page.
- 2 Q I'm just saying the inventory had a ballpark value of
- 3 \$1.7 million, times four percent, I'm getting at \$66
- 4 million, I did the math. But that's about right, right?
- 5 A Sounds right, yes.
- 6 Q And why isn't that the right 506(c) charge, assuming
- 7 any is appropriate in this case?
- 8 A It's a different scenario. We had an actual sale of
- 9 the company with a fair market value that we discussed that
- 10 had took us a certain amount of expenditures to get us to
- 11 that point to allow for the credit bids and the deal to
- 12 close. It's just a different analysis. I can't really
- 13 compare that, apples to apples, to this.
- 14 Q You're not claiming that if you pivoted at this point
- 15 | in time -- which this was prepared January 12 -- that you
- 16 have had (indiscernible) decrease in overall expenses, are
- 17 you?
- 18 A I'm not sure I understand the question.
- 19 Q I'm saying if on January 12 you adopted the wind-down
- 20 proposal, or wind-down option, rather than the sale option,
- 21 you're not claiming that would have resulted in more
- 22 expenses than you incurred up to that point in time.
- 23 A I guess I'm still not following. What ...?
- Q Wouldn't you have incurred a lot more of expenses if
- you did this wind-down proposal, than you actually incurred

1 by doing the proposal with my client, ESL, and Transform? 2 I mean, it's possible. I mean, if you're starting to 3 pivot in January, and we've been operating in bankruptcy for several months, it's still going to take you minimum three 4 5 to four months for a wind-down. So, it's possible you would 6 have more expenses. 7 And he also assumes that you're going to, that there's going to be a 90 percent recovery of the inventory of the 8 9 liquidation, right, at that point in time. 10 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I'm going to object to 11 There's a lack of foundation. By his own testimony, 12 Mr. Griffith didn't prepare this document. It doesn't have 13 any foundation upon which to testify to the accuracy of the 14 information, and they haven't established it. 15 MR. MOLONEY: This was prepared by M-III. We 16 could call Mr. Meghji, the CRO, whose affidavit this was 17 attached to, and they made it a joint exhibit. 18 THE COURT: I think he can answer questions on this. mean, if there's something that you don't understand in it 19 20 you should say so. But otherwise, if you understand it and 21 can knowledgably talk about it, then you can answer the 22 question. 23 MR. GENENDER: Okay. 24 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, I'm going to leave this exhibit, make it easier. 25

Page 182 1 Now, I'd like you to look at Exhibit I to your report. 2 THE COURT: What tab does that ...? 3 MR. MOLONEY: That's, it's to supplemental report and it may not ... is it in there? I have a ... 4 5 THE COURT: Is it number six? That's also labeled 6 five. 7 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, in the declaration book it's the third declaration, page ... it's toward the back, 8 9 unfortunately it's not one (indiscernible) page number. 10 MR. MOLONEY: Okay, it's in the book at Exhibit 11 Six. 12 THE COURT: Yeah, six. 13 MR. MOLONEY: In Exhibit Six. THE COURT: The thin book. It's the chart that 14 15 adds up to \$1.451 billion. 16 MR. MOLONEY: Yes, exactly, Your Honor. That's 17 the chart that adds up to that number. 18 And this was a chart that was given to us on Thursday evening of last week. Is that correct? 19 20 That's correct. 21 And a more legible version, it says the searchable, 22 legible (indiscernible). 23 I'm sorry? 24 Maybe you weren't involved in the details. Forget 25 that. And is it fair to say that you included on this

- exhibit all of the money, all the money the Debtors spent in
- 2 these cases, except for approximately \$100 million of legal
- 3 fees, \$31 million of license fees to vendors, \$10 million
- 4 for utility deposits and \$295 million of what Exhibit I
- 5 calls, quote, "GOB stores on non-sale related expenses." Is
- 6 that correct?
- 7 A That's correct.
- 8 Q And looking at that last item, GOB sales on non-related
- 9 expenses, which I think is the last part of this Exhibit I,
- 10 should that be 'or'? Should that be "GOB store or non-sale
- 11 related"?
- 12 A It's the GOB-related expenses of the stores that were
- 13 closed during the process, the oppose process.
- 14 Q It's only the GOB stores.
- 15 A That's right.
- 16 Q There's no other expenses there, other than the stores
- 17 that are related to the GOB sales or are there other
- 18 expenses included there as well?
- 19 A I believe it's just the GOB. It is.
- 20 Q And how do you know that?
- 21 A It's the analysis that my team has pulled together on
- 22 the GOB expenses as we ran the GOB reporting over the course
- 23 of the case.
- 24 Q Okay. Now, if you look at the Schulte report, amended
- 25 report, which is Exhibit Three, and you look at Exhibit --

- after that report, which is page 42 -- page 42, Exhibit F,
- 2 to the Schulte report.
- 3 A Okay.
- 4 Q And you see that there's a gross margin of \$414.5
- 5 million that was actually earned by the stores post chapter
- 6 | 11 filing, correct?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And you see that \$414.5 million was used to pay \$403
- 9 million of actual operating expenses. Do you see that?
- 10 A I see that.
- 11 Q To the extent expenses were paid from that source, they
- were not deducted from your chart, right?
- 13 A I'm sorry, can you say that part again?
- 14 Q To the extent expenses were paid from the \$403 million
- 15 margin, from the sale of our collateral, your chart wants to
- 16 double charge us for those same expenses, correct?
- 17 A I don't think that's how it works.
- 18 Q In what way did I get it wrong?
- 19 A The 506(c) surcharge that we're showing here does show
- 20 store-level expenses as well as the corporate overhead, but
- 21 | we don't account for that anywhere else. So, it is the true
- 22 and actual operating expenses that were incurred post-
- 23 petition to get us to a sale.
- 24 Q I'm sorry, did you deduct from -- we talked, we saw
- what the deduct for your total, I didn't see any deduct for

Page 185 1 earnings at the store level. Are you saying that you 2 deducted from your total, the \$414.5 million? 3 No, I did not. Α Okay. If you did not deduct from your total -- these 4 5 expenses, went to pay store-level employees, right? 6 It's one of the components, yes. 7 And it went to pay rent, right? 8 Α Yes. 9 It went to pay utility and telephones, right? 10 Α It did. It went to pay advertising, right? 11 Q 12 A portion of it. It went to pay security services, right? 13 14 Α Yes. 15 And so, you're double counting to the extent you're 16 charging us for that money, right? 17 Where else am I charging it for that? 18 In your Exhibit I. I'm saying that the 403 is a component of the billion 19 20 451. This is not my schedule, this Appendix F. It's Mr. 21 Schulte's. 22 So the 403 is a component of the 451. That's all I 23 need, I think, on that. Let me go onto Exhibit B which is, ironically, on page ... four pages in -- you have that? 24 25 THE COURT: I'm sorry, Exhibit B to what?

Page 186 1 MR. MOLONEY: It's the same thing. It's called 2 Exhibit B. It follows Appendix D. 3 THE COURT: As to Mr. Schulte's --MR. MOLONEY: In the same document we're looking 4 5 at, you just go forward a few pages, and it's 65 and 71 on 6 the top, in terms of numbering. And it's showing GOB 7 results. If you look that \$144 million number, which is the end 8 of total GOB expenses, that was additional money generated 9 10 by the margin on the GOB stores, right, that was available 11 to pay expenses and, in fact, did pay the same store level 12 expenses we just discussed, right, for the GOB stores. 13 I'm confused. It says, "Total GOB expenses." 14 THE COURT: Are you asking whether this 144 15 million is part of the 403, or on top of it? 16 MR. MOLONEY: No, this is on top of it. 17 THE COURT: On top of the 403. 18 First I just want to establish the 144 is, in qualitatively, the same; this represents the money that was 19 20 spent at a store level to pay payroll, to pay security, to 21 pay advertising in connection with the going-out-of-business 22 sales, right? 23 That's what it appears to show here. I can't verify 24 the document though. But yes, it would appear to be the GOB 25 expenses...

Page 187 1 And that number would be on top of the \$403 million, 2 right? It's part of what we excluded from our billion 451. We 3 excluded GOB store-level expenses. 4 5 I know, but I couldn't -- that's why I asked the 6 question I asked earlier about Exhibit I, because your 7 number for Exhibit I for excluded GOB on-store sale expenses is higher than this \$144 billion number. Right? 8 9 You're saying what I have excluded was higher than 10 this? 11 I'm looking at your Exhibit I and I'm looking at 12 the exclusions that you have under, at the -- for on-store -13 - and you have a number of 295.3, and I'm trying to 14 understand how I can reconcile that with the 144. 15 We excluded more expense. I don't know the source of 16 this Exhibit B in the Schulte. I don't know if he's not 17 taking any allocations. But to the extent we were taking 18 GOB-related expenses plus any overhead allocation, plus any 19 Abacus Advisor fees. It's quite possible we have a much 20 higher number that's being excluded. 21 But you don't know what you excluded on top of \$144 22 million, right? 23 I don't know the --24 MR. GENENDER: Objection, misstate the testimony.

That's --

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- 1 THE COURT: I think he didn't -- I think what he
- 2 testified is he didn't know what was in the 144.
- Q Okay. You don't know what's in the 144? And you don't
- 4 really know what's in the 295.3 either, do you?
- 5 A We show the detail here.
- 6 Q I know you show this level of detail, but what else you
- 7 might have excluded you don't know.
- 8 A This breaks down what we exclude. I just can't speak
- 9 to the 144.
- 10 Q Okay. Now, would you look back at Schulte report, at
- 11 the appendix, which is ... page 25, the appendix? Did you
- 12 include all of the employee payroll expense for Sears Auto
- 13 | Center in your expenses?
- 14 A I'm sorry, what page are you on?
- 15 Q I'm on page 25, on the list of various businesses. I'm
- 16 asking, did you include -- it's page 44 of 71, at the top,
- 17 page 25 at the bottom, Appendix A of the Schulte report.
- 18 Did you exclude all of the payroll expenses of the Sears
- 19 Auto Center, or include it?
- 20 A No, I think the Sears Auto Center are included.
- 21 Q And how about the e-commerce -- are they included or
- 22 excluded?
- 23 A They'd be included.
- 24 Q And the ShopYourWay, is that included or included?
- 25 A It would be included.

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Page 189 1 How about service contract -- how about Service Home 2 Services -- Sears Home Services? Did you include all of 3 their employees? 4 Yes. Α 5 How about Service Contract segment, did you include all 6 of their employees? 7 Α We did. And In-home Repair segment, did you include all of 8 9 their employees? 10 We did. 11 And Parts Direct segment, do you include all of their 12 employees? 13 Α Yes. 14 And franchise segment, did you include all of their 15 employees? 16 I don't know if they have employees if they're a 17 franchise, but the expenses would likely be included, yes. 18 Q And Home Improvement? 19 Yes. 20 Q Did you include -- and Financial Services, did you 21 include all of their employees? 22 Α Yes. 23 And Innovel, did you include all of their employees? 24 Α Yes. 25 And Monarch, did you include all of their employees?

Pg 190 of 333 Page 190 1 We did. 2 And Kenmore, did you include all of their employees? 3 Α Yes. And Die Hard? 4 Q 5 Yes. 6 And if I went through every category, would you give 7 the same answers, that you included, for every category, all 8 the expenses for all these businesses, to be surcharged 9 against our collateral? 10 I would, because in most of these scenarios we're using 11 the collateral that's on the borrowing base. The inventory 12 and accounts receivable that are generated are done so 13 through using, for Home Services, we have the service 14 inventory on the books. The same would be true with any of 15 the parts kind of direct businesses. And Innovel, Monarch, 16 sell the inventory that we have on hand as well. It's all 17 part of the retail network. 18 And if the Judge were to disagree with you and say, okay, some of these expenses I don't think make sense, 19 20 there's no way you could figure it out from your Exhibit I, 21 what the detail is in terms of how much of the expenses 22 relate to any of these businesses, right? We have it in the supporting detail, but this is the 23 24 summary level of the detail, what we think is appropriate to

include. But that is up to the Court to decide what they

Pg 191 of 333 Page 191 1 want to include. 2 With all due respect, it was up to you to include what 3 you thought was necessary to get your document into evidence, but that's an issue --4 5 THE COURT: Well, let me ask it a different way. 6 Is the detail in evidence? Is it in any of the exhibits? 7 MR. GENENDER: We turned over the support files, 8 the affidavit. 9 THE COURT: But it's not in the exhibits? 10 MR. GENENDER: Attached to the declaration, with respect to the backup, Your Honor, obviously, we intend to 11 12 move the declaration into evidence, so the answer is yes. 13 What detail is it, besides Exhibit I, that supports this analysis? 14 We provided the raw data files that include all of the 15 16 underling expenses for the periods covered. 17 For what periods? 18 From petition date through close, as well as the -also as subsets of the other periods we discussed, in terms 19 20 of from the first --21 But when and how were they produced to anyone? 22 THE COURT: I'm sorry, we're moving away. I was 23 just asking what's in the record as opposed to what was provided in discovery. 24

I think in the record, all there is, is Exhibit I,

Q.

Pg 192 of 333 Page 192 1 right? 2 I think that's correct. You included \$34 million in assumed post-petition 3 interest to first lien DIP lenders in your declaration as 4 part of the first lien debt, is that correct? 5 6 Yes. 7 And you also included, in your build up to the \$14.51 8 million, \$91 million ... or actually \$94 million of actually 9 DIP interest in financing fees. Is that correct? 10 That's correct. 11 Isn't that double counting? 12 They're used for separate purposes. In our calculation 13 of a 507(b), there is no diminution in value so we don't 14 apply any 506(c) surcharge to the extent. Another valuation 15 method was used to determine the 507(b). We'd be using the 16 506(c) surcharge we've attached her. If, to the extent 17 there was some amount that was already included per our 18 analysis, we would reduce the 94 million in Exhibit I by the 19 similar amount, but they're not being calculated in any 20 fashion here. 21 The \$94 million includes all the interest you actually 22 paid to any of the first lien lenders or DIP lenders joining 23 the chapter 11 case, right?

And the \$34 million number is just a projected number,

Interest and fees, yes.

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- not a number you actually paid.
- 2 A It was the hypothetical minimum, yes.
- 3 Q A hypothetical number, okay. And you want to charge
- 4 this for both the hypothetical number and the real number,
- 5 right?
- 6 A No, that's not what I said.
- 7 Q Well, your calculation starts with a deduct based on
- 8 the hypothetical number being ahead of us, and then you want
- 9 to subtract from us the real debt, real amount you spent.
- 10 Why is that not double counting?
- 11 A Because we never get to a 506(c) surcharge in our
- 12 analysis. We show no diminution in value, so we never
- 13 actually have to apply this. To the extent there was
- 14 another way it was being employed, do you actually calculate
- 15 the 507(b); this is the 506(c) in Exhibit I that we would
- 16 put forward.
- 17 Q If you look at the Reicker declaration again, which is
- 18 Exhibit Four, (indiscernible) the sentence I asked you about
- 19 before, where we talked about the LCs, the next sentence is,
- 20 "Accordingly, absent some unforeseen circumstances, the
- 21 Debtor should be able to satisfy the DIP ABL facility from
- 22 the proceeds of the original pre-petition ABL collateral
- 23 without resorting to the proceeds of previously unencumbered
- 24 collateral, as long as the Debtors have the time and
- 25 liquidity to run an orderly and valued maximizing process."

Page 194 1 Did I read that properly? 2 Yes. 3 And that was the plan, right? The plan was always to maximize value. The sentence 4 Α 5 seems reasonable. 6 So, there was always ... when we obtained the adequate 7 protection, it was understood that the \$94 million was going 8 to be spent out, which is why we got the adequate 9 protection. And now you're saying, now that it was actually 10 spent we don't have it anymore. Is that what you're saying? 11 I'm not sure I follow the question. 12 Well, when we got the adequate protection liens, the 13 replacement liens, everyone anticipated that our collateral 14 was going to be used to pay out the first lien debt. That's 15 what this says, right? 16 That's what it says here, I don't --17 And, therefore, we were given adequate protection liens 18 and 507(b) claims to compensate us for that use, correct? 19 MR. GENENDER: Objection. He's asking for legal 20 conclusions. 21 THE COURT: I think you are. 22 MR. MOLONEY: I think I can make this argument to 23 Your Honor. I have a few more questions. 24 THE COURT: Can I just ask -- it's related to what 25 you've just been going though. You said the \$34 million in

- your 507(b) calculation was a hypothetical number. Why did you choose that number instead of the actual interest number?
- 4 MR. GRIFFITH: We were just assuming bare minimum, three-month period with, actually, with no DIP being put in 5 place, with some type of an orderly liquidation. So, it's 7 really just the interest on a first lien debt that would 8 approve that period. It was just to be on a conservative 9 basis.
 - All of the decisions were made, whether to do one thing or the other in this case, whether for value maximization, whether to do liquidation, or to do a going concern sale, were made by parties other than the second lien parties, right?
 - I mean, the decisions were made by the Restructuring Committee and the company with buy-in from various creditors, including, I believe, the second liens.
 - Well, all of the buy-in from the second lien creditors was premised on their -- the original deal you had where they had where they had adequate protection liens and 507(d) claims, right? Did they ever say, "We're happy to do this transaction, we're happy to have you go forward in this case, but we don't want these protections, " -- did they ever tell you that?
- 25 I can't answer that question. I don't know.

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Page 196 1 MR. MOLONEY: I have no more questions, Your Honor 2 MR. LIUBICIC: Your Honor, if we may approach, we have a cross-exam binder for the Court. 3 4 THE COURT: Before you do that, I had one question 5 and I probably will forget it if I don't ask it now. 6 turn to Exhibit B of Mr. Schulte's report, at the top it 7 says Page 65 of 71 ... GOB results. 8 MR. GRIFFITH: Yes, I see it, Your Honor. 9 THE COURT: If you look at the far right, Net 10 Recovery Percentage column. 11 MR. GRIFFITH: Yes. 12 THE COURT: The aggregate number is 95.6 percent. 13 You see that? 14 MR. GRIFFITH: I do. 15 THE COURT: Are you aware that Mr. Heinrich had a different 16 number for the aggregate recovery? A different percentage 17 number, I think it was 96.4 percent. 18 MR. GRIFFITH: Yes, I think we did realize that, that he has a slightly different calculation. 19 20 THE COURT: Do you know who's right? I mean, I appreciate 21 it's a difference of 1.4 percent that -- do you have a view 22 as to who is correct based on your knowledge of your 23 company's books and records? 24 MR. GRIFFITH: I don't. I haven't done any calculation, but 25 my understanding if I recall is that I believe the Schulte

- one is correct. It's really just a matter of what you're
- 2 using in your numerator versus in your denominator. I
- 3 believe that Heinrich is subtracting certain expenses from
- 4 the numerator as opposed to the denominator and it's
- 5 changing the fraction slightly.
- 6 But overall I think the Schulte methodology is more
- 7 accurate. But it maybe should also be mentioned that I
- 8 don't believe this takes into account any type of corporate
- 9 allocation.
- 10 | THE COURT: I understand that point, that this was, in
- 11 essence, the store allocation GLB1.
- 12 MR. GRIFFITH: Correct.
- 13 | THE COURT: Just the 95.6, do the Debtors have a number like
- 14 this anywhere?
- 15 MR. GRIFFITH: We did not rely on an OOB or any type of
- 16 liquidation methodology in our analysis.
- 17 | THE COURT: So this is a calculation that's made by both Mr.
- 18 | Schulte and Mr. Heinrich, not taken off of the Debtors --
- 19 MR. GRIFFITH: The basis for this may be from ours. I don't
- 20 think I know the source of this.
- 21 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you
- 22 MR. LUBICIC: Your Honor, the source on it is the Debtors'
- 23 four month actuals since we gave them, and this is a summary
- 24 exhibit based on documents they have, the corrected summary
- 25 exhibit.

Page 198 1 THE COURT: Okay. All right. 2 MR. LUBICIC: Your Honor, may we approach? 3 Good afternoon, Mr. Griffith. Q Good afternoon. 4 5 Mr. Griffith, we've handed you a binder with some of 6 the joint exhibits that are behind tabs and in the left 7 pocket there's a copy of your deposition in case we need to 8 look at that, okay? 9 And Mr. Griffith, do you have the binder of your 10 declarations that Mr. Genender handed you when you took the 11 stand? 12 I do. 13 Okay. Mr. Griffith, you'd agree with me that collateral values expressed as a percentage of book value 14 15 can vary over time? 16 Α Yes. 17 And you can't point us to any authority suggesting it's 18 appropriate to value collateral as of the petition date 19 based on what someone might have paid for that collateral 20 about four months later, correct? 21 Most reasonably. That methodology I can think of based 22 on that's -- what was achieved in a transaction between a 23 willing buyer and a willing seller. I don't know of a 24 better way to do it. 25 That wasn't my question. My question was, can you

Pg 199 of 333 Page 199 1 point us to any authority supporting that notion? 2 I cannot. Let me ask you a few questions about the letters of 3 credit. Your view was that in a liquidation, letters of 4 5 credit may be fully drawn, correct? 6 Yes, that's possible. 7 Okay. And one of the bases of your view is that in a liquidation -- withdrawn. One of the bases of your view 8 9 that in a liquidation, letters of credit may be fully drawn. 10 Is your understanding of litigation over letters of credit 11 in the Circuit City bankruptcy, correct? 12 It was just the data point that was used. 13 That was one of the bases that you told me about in O your deposition, right? 14 15 It was something I mentioned, yes. 16 Okay. You're not personally involved in the Circuit 17 City case, correct? 18 I am not. Okay. And the other basis of your view is from 19 20 discussions you've had with your colleagues at M3, right? 21 Α That's correct. 22 And you're not aware of any instance in an orderly Chapter 11 liquidation of a retailer, where letters of 23 24 credit were fully drawn, correct? 25 I do not know that, no.

Page 200 1 And you'd agree that in the three years prior to the 2 petition date, hundreds of Sears stores were liquidated? 3 Α Yes. 4 And as of the filing date, Sears had approximately at 5 687 stores? 6 Approximately sounds correct. 7 And you'd agree that during the course of this case, there have been approximately 262 GOB sales at Sears stores? 8 9 Α Yes. 10 And you'd also agree that it was public knowledge at 11 certain points in this Chapter 11 case that the Debtors were 12 taking the position that they might have to pivot to a 13 liquidation, right? 14 Α Yes. 15 And from the petition date to the date of the closing 16 of the sale to ESL, only \$9.1 million was drawn under the 17 letters of credit, correct? 18 That's correct. And if the letter of credit is drawn to cover a 19 20 contingent liability, but the liability doesn't ultimately 21 occur, you'd expect that at the end of the period where --22 during which the liability was contingent, the proceeds of the letters of credit would be returned, correct? 23 24 Α Yes.

Okay. Let's talk for a few minutes about Ms. Murray's

Pg 201 of 333 Page 201 1 analysis, okay? 2 Okay. With regard to Ms. Murray's minimum case made out in 3 4 her report, you don't believe she used an incorrect 5 methodology, correct? 6 Can you repeat the question? 7 Yeah. With regard to Ms. Murray's minimum case laid out in her report, you don't believe she used an incorrect 8 9 methodology, correct? 10 No, I wouldn't say that. 11 Okay. Could you turn to your deposition, which should 0 12 be in the left pocket of the exhibit binder you did? And 13 could you turn to Page 171, please? Are you there? I am. 14 Α 15 So do you see on Line 23 of Page 171 I asked you 16 the question, "And what about in Ms. Murray's minimum case, 17 do you believe she used an incorrect methodology? Do you see that?" 18 That's in response to the inventory --19 20 Q Sir, do you see my question? 21 Α It's --22 Do you see the question that I asked you? I'm looking 23 at Page 171, Line 23. 24 You're asking if there's a problem with her 25 methodology, but the question is --

Page 202 1 All I'm asking you, Mr. Griffith, is if you see the 2 question that I asked you in your deposition. 3 I see a few questions, yes. 4 Okay. And could you read your answer on Page 172, Line Q 5 Could you read that answer, please? 6 Starting on which line? Α 7 Q Two. 8 Line 2? 9 Yes sir, the answer to the question that I asked you. 10 Can you read that, please? 11 Line 2 on Page 171 --Α 12 THE COURT: No, no, on Page 172. 13 172. 0 Oh 172. "I don't believe so." 14 15 Now you understand that Ms. Murray's analysis relies on 16 part on NOLV's set out in appraisals that were performed by 17 Tiger, right? I do. 18 And Tiger is knowledgeable about the values of Sears' 19 20 inventory, correct? 21 Α It is. 22 And in fact, Debtors have relied on Tiger data during 23 this Chapter 11 case, haven't they? 24 Α They have. 25 For example, Debtors have relied on Tiger data in

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 203 of 333 Page 203 1 connection with the borrowing base advance rates, right? 2 Yes. 3 And you'd agree that Tiger's inventory analyses rely in 4 large part on information supplied by the company to Tiger? 5 Yes. 6 Tiger was hired by the first lien ABL lenders to 7 prepare appraisals of the inventory that was the ABL 8 lenders' collateral, correct? 9 Yes. 10 And both before and after the petition date, you had 11 discussions with the ABL lenders and their advisors, right? 12 We did. And prior to the petition date leading up to the 13 14 filing, you told the ABL lenders that Tiger's NOLV's were 15 conservative, correct? 16 About a year prior to it, yes. 17 Well, you tell me in your deposition it was leading up 18 to the filing, you told them it was conservative, right? We were leading up to it at that point, yes. That the 19 20 (indiscernible) was around November the year before. 21 And you understand that the source of Ms. Murray's 88.7 Q 22 percent NOLV is the Tiger appraisal dated September 28th, 2018, right? 23 24 Α Yes.

And if you look in your exhibit binder at Tab 1, you

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 204 of 333 Page 204 1 see what is Joint Exhibit 4, the Tiger appraisal dated 2 September 28th, 2018. Do you see that? I do. 3 Α And you'd agree with me that this September 28th 4 5 appraisal, if you look at the cover page, it has an 6 inventory date of October 6, 2018? 7 Α Yes. 8 Okay. Let's turn to Page 6 of the appraisal, please. 9 And the JX Bates Number is JX004-8. Do you see that? 10 I see it. 11 Okay. Do you see that on Page 6, under the heading 12 "Sale Expenses", Tiger said, "Expenses for the retail JOB 13 inventory sale included in this analysis, consists of two 14 categories"? 15 I do. 16 And you see those two categories are direct sale 17 expenses and non-direct sale expenses, right? 18 Α Yes. And do you see that Tiger said non-direct sale expenses 19 20 include royalty payments, (indiscernible) liquidation fees 21 and corporate overhead required to support the retail store 22 JOB sales? 23 That's what it says, yes.

- 24 And you don't know whether during the time period you 25 were telling the ABL lenders and their advisors that Tiger's

- 1 NOLVs were conservative. Whether those NOLVs included any
- 2 more corporate overhead than what's described here on Page
- 3 6, right?
- 4 A It was about a year earlier. I assume they were using
- 5 a similar methodology.
- 6 Q And post-petition, you've never told the ABL lenders or
- 7 | their advisors that you disagreed with any of Tiger's NOLVs,
- 8 right?
- 9 A We have not.
- 10 Q Mr. Griffith, do you recall in your second supplemental
- 11 declaration you discussed Ms. Murray's inclusion of in
- 12 transit inventory as part of her inventory valuation?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Okay. And do you recall you included that discussion
- 15 in a section of your second supplemental declaration titled
- 16 Problems with 2L Expert's Inventory Valuations"?
- 17 A It sounds correct, yes.
- 18 Q Okay. In fact, your 507(b) analysis includes in
- 19 transit inventory, right?
- 20 A Well, the fair market on a book basis, yes, not in an
- 21 NOLV.
- 22 Q And your analysis values the in transit inventory at 85
- 23 percent, just like you value the rest of the inventory,
- 24 right?
- 25 A When you take 85 percent of the book value of all

Page 206 1 inventory, yes. 2 Do you know what Ms. Murray valued the inventory at, 3 the in transit inventory at? Is it in this Tiger report? 4 5 It is not. But do you recall what she valued the in transit inventory at? 6 7 Α I don't recall. Okay. Does 51.6 percent sound correct? 8 9 It could be. 10 Okay. And I'll represent to you that she valued it at 11 a 51.6 percent NOLV. So Ms. Murray valued the in transit 12 inventory at a lower percentage than you did, correct? 13 It sounds like it, yes. 14 Let's talk about Abacus for a minute. Abacus is a liquidator, correct? 15 16 Α They are. 17 And Abacus was the company's liquidation advisor, is that right? 18 19 Yes. 20 Q And you'd agree that Abacus was highly experience in 21 running JOB sales for Sears? 22 Α They were. And prior to the petition date, Abacus has liquidated 23 24 hundreds of Sears and K-Mart locations, right? 25 Yes. Α

Page 207 1 It was Abacus that handled the liquidation of 200 plus 2 JOB stores during this case? 3 Α Yes. And you'd agree that in December of 2018, Abacus 4 5 projected NOLVs of 90.2 percent to 93.7 percent in the event 6 Debtors pivoted to a liquidation? 7 I'd have to see the document and (indiscernible). 8 We could look in your exhibit binder at Tab 4. And for 9 the record, this is Joint Exhibit 17. It's a deck titled 10 "Project Blue Liquidation Bits Review". And Mr. Griffith, 11 you could turn to Page 3, the JX Bates Number is 017-3. Do 12 you see it? 13 Α Okay. 14 Are you with me? 15 I am. 16 And do you see this slide is titled "Abacus Net 17 Recovery Projection"? 18 Α Yes. And do you see the first bullet says "Abacus and the 19 20 company project a final net orderly liquidation value 21 (indiscernible) merchandise of 90.2 and 93.7 percent?" 22 Before liquidation fees? 23 I thought you might say that. If you look down at the 24 chart at the bottom, do you see there's a bolded line near 25 the bottom of the chart that says "Net recovery before

Page 208 1 liquidator fee"? 2 Yes. Okay. And do you see the figures before liquidator fee 3 are 90.3 percent and 93.8 percent? 4 5 Yes. 6 And then do you see two rows down, there's net recovery 7 after liquidator fee? 8 I see it. And do you see those values are 90.2 percent and 90 9 10 point -- 93.7 percent? 11 I do. 12 Okay. So that 90.2 percent and 93.7 percent, they 13 match the figures up at the top in the first 14 (indiscernible), correct? 15 Yes. 16 Okay. So I read the before liquidation fees in that 17 first bullet as a typo and rather, it should say after. 18 Would you agree with that? 19 Yes. 20 Q Okay. And do you see here on this slide it says Abacus 21 on the company projected those NOLVs? 22 I do. Α 23 Okay. So this was not just Abacus' projection, but the 24 projection of the company, correct? 25 That's what it says, yes.

Page 209 1 All right. And then, if you look at the bullets that 2 have dashes in front of them, do you see the third one that 3 begins "Expense categories are taken from Tiger's 4 appraisal"? 5 I see it. 6 Okay. And do you see it goes on to say, "With expense 7 amounts estimated here in (indiscernible)." And it gives a 8 number of bases, including Tiger's estimates for certain 9 expenses. Do you see that? 10 I do. 11 So this is another example of the company relying on 12 Tiger, right? 13 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, I'm going to object. 14 That totally conflates the exercise what -- exactly for 15 what. I mean, he's talking about liquidation, which didn't 16 happen. It's a leading question. 17 THE COURT: He's relying on Tiger for the purposes 18 of this particular analysis. 19 MR. LIUBICIC: Yes. 20 THE COURT: That's what it is. 21 MR. LIUBICIC: Exactly. 22 MR. GENENDER: It's irrelevant to -- I object to 23 its relevance. THE COURT: It's (indiscernible) relevant. 24 MR. LIUBICIC: It does say we're (indiscernible) 25

- on Tiger on this one.
- 2 Q And Mr. Griffith, at a January 5th meeting of the
- 3 Restructuring Committee that you attended, Weil recommended
- 4 in the event of a wind down the company proceed with a
- 5 liquidation advisory team consisting of Abacus and SB360,
- 6 right?
- 7 A That sounds correct, yes.
- 8 Q And you stated in your supplemental declaration, your
- 9 June 27th declaration that it's possible that Debtors
- 10 would've accepted an equity bid for their liquidation of the
- 11 company, correct?
- 12 A It's possible.
- 13 Q Okay. Abacus and SB360 didn't submit equity bids for
- 14 the liquidation of the company, correct?
- 15 A I mean, it never happened. It's possible they could
- 16 have, if we switched directions and abandoned going in a
- 17 certain sale.
- 18 Q At the time Weil was recommending that the company use
- 19 a team of Abacus and SB360, they had not submitted equity
- 20 bids, correct?
- 21 A Not that I'm aware of.
- 22 Q And in fact, the equity bids that were submitted by
- 23 other liquidators, those were deemed nonconforming by the
- 24 company, correct?
- 25 A The last versions I saw, I think that's correct.

Page 211 1 Mr. Griffith, you recall in Paragraphs 9 and 10 of your 2 supplemental declaration, you point to a number of risks of 3 a liquidation that you argue would reduce overall recoveries? 4 5 Yes. 6 And I'm happy to show you those paragraphs, I'm just 7 trying -- doing this in the interest of time. But if you 8 want to look at them, that's totally fine. 9 Okay. 10 Your views about the costs and the margins that would 11 be realized in a wind down or a liquidation, those are based 12 on your general understanding of how liquidations of 13 retailers work, correct? 14 Α That's right. 15 You've never personally been engaged in a Chapter 11 16 orderly liquidation of a retailer, right? 17 Α I have not. 18 And you've never been engaged in a Chapter 7 liquidation of a retailer, right? 19 20 I have not. 21 And you've never been engaged in a Chapter 7 22 liquidation of a retailer, right? 23 Α No. 24 And you're not aware of any retailers who have 25 converted their cases to a Chapter 7, correct?

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 212 of 333 Page 212 1 Not that I've been involved with, no. 2 I'm sorry? O 3 Not that I've been involved with, no. You've never been engaged in what you call a fire sale 4 Q 5 liquidation of a retailer, correct? 6 I'm not a liquidation expert, no. 7 And you haven't attempted to quantify by how much a 8 wind down would reduce overall recoveries, right? 9 It didn't happen here, so we focused on the actual 10 transaction that occurred. 11 Okay. So the answer to my question is no, you haven't 0 12 attempted that, right? 13 I have not done that (indiscernible), no. 14 And you haven't quantified what you refer to in your 15 supplemental declarations as the margins in a fire sale, 16 right? 17 We have not or I have not. 18 Q No. MR. LIUBICIC: Okay. So Your Honor, I would move 19 20 to strike Paragraphs 9 and 10 of Mr. Griffith's supplemental 21 declaration? He's a lay witness. He just said he's not an 22 expert in liquidations. He's attempting to offer opinions 23 about an area of specialized knowledge. What happens in the

liquidation of a retailer. And in addition, to the extent

he's offering those opinions as a lay witness, they're not

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based on his perception. He's never been involved in a liquidation of a retailer in bankruptcy. He's not able to quantify any of these risks, and we submit that violates Rule 7 or (indiscernible), and those paragraphs that are supplemental should be struck.

MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, he's just responding to different aspects of their own reports. And clearly Ms.

Murray is making a liquidation analysis in a case that was always -- that turned out to be (indiscernible). So I don't know that it's the most important part of this testimony,

Your Honor, but I do think that they're fair and they should be allowed.

THE COURT: Well, I'd strike the second sentence of Paragraph 9, and the equity bids aren't there in the record elsewhere, right? Or is this how these equity bids come in? Are they in the record? The Gordon brothers proposed Tiger (indiscernible) America bids are they --

MR. LIUBICIC: There are some data points on the record about what the equity bids were.

THE COURT: Okay. So I think that's fine, but the standard about the market's view of (indiscernible) is -- I mean, the bids just speak for themselves. And as far as 10 is concerned, I think it's irrelevant. So I'm not paying any attention to 10. This isn't about Chapter 7 in any case.

Pg 214 of 333 Page 214 1 MR. LIUBICIC: Thank you, Your Honor. 2 Ms. Murray notes that there are other indicators of inventory value, including a January 2019 wind down analysis 3 that the company prepared that includes an NOLV of 90 4 5 percent. Do you recall that? 6 I recall her mentioning that, yes. 7 In your view is that the 90 percent NOLV from the wind down analysis isn't an appropriate metric because you're not 8 9 sure it takes all of the costs associated with the full 10 liquidation and bankruptcy into account, correct? 11 That's right. But you're not sure you did a very diligenced review of 12 13 whether the wind down analysis does or does not take all of 14 the costs into account, correct? 15 I was not a part of that analysis, so I can't comment 16 on it. 17 Then it's not -- if I understand you correctly, you're 18 saying you didn't do any analysis of whether the wind down 19 analysis took all of the costs (indiscernible)? 20 If the NOLV in the Tiger report is lower than that, I 21 would assume it is not taking into account everything. 22 think that's at a store level without much overhead 23 allocation. 24 But you didn't do that analysis, right?

I didn't.

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 215 of 333 Page 215 1 In Paragraph 17 of your supplemental declaration, Mr. 2 Griffith, you set out what you call an adjusted (indiscernible) valuation. Do you recall that? 3 4 Α Yes. 5 Your adjustments that you make in Paragraph 17 to Ms. 6 Murray's minimum case analysis, those total about \$600 7 million in Debtor's favor. Is that about right? 8 Yes, I think that's right. 9 But you're still calling that an adjusted Cyrus 10 analysis, right? 11 Based off of the analysis provided by Mrs. Murray. 12 Just a few questions on 506(c), the \$1.45 billion in costs you allege is a portion of the amount that was 13 14 incurred to conduct the going sale -- the going concern sale 15 process, correct? 16 Yes. 17 And we'd agree that in the going concern sale, what was 18 sold to ESL was not just the 2L collateral, but in fact the majority of the company's remaining assets, right? 19 20 That's right. 21 And could we look in your supplemental declaration at 22 Page 11, Paragraph 18 for a moment?

I'm sorry, which declaration?

www.veritext.com

It's your supplemental, the June 27th, and it's

Paragraph 18.

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Page 216 1 Okay. 2 And I'm at the top of Page 11. Are you with me? 3 Α I am. Okay. Do you see that you stated here that if an NOLV 4 5 valuation approach is used, certain reductions to your 6 506(c) surcharges, and you state certain store level 7 expenses and corporate overhead allocations would need to be 8 made to account for the costs included in the NOLV values in 9 the Tiger appraisal? 10 Α Yes. 11 You haven't done an analysis of what those store level 12 expenses and corporate overhead allocations amount to, 13 correct? 14 We have not done an NOLV valuation approach. We 15 focused on the fair market value approach. 16 Okay. So the answer to my question is no. 17 That's right. 18 I'll pass the witness. CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MR. BRIAN GRIFFITH 19 20 BY MR. FOX: 21 MR. FOX: And for the record, Edward Fox from 22 (indiscernible). 23 Good afternoon, Mr. Griffith. In your response to Mr. 24 Moloney's testimony, I believe you indicated that you 25 included employee costs in your 506(c) charge for Innovel,

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 217 of 333 Page 217 1 Monark, Kenmore, DieHard, Home Services, and perhaps other 2 entities that I can't even recall, because they were all 3 part of the retail network. Is that correct? 4 Yes. Α 5 So that would mean that all the proceeds from 6 those entities was the proceeds of inventory as well, 7 correct? The costs associated with those were to help move the 8 9 inventory one way or another. So it's part of the necessary 10 costs to actually sell a refrigerator or to move the goods 11 in and out of a store to sell them online. It's all related 12 to the inventory collateral, and eventually, the accounts 13 receivable. 14 I'm sorry, what -- I couldn't -- the last part? 15 And the credit card receivables. 16 So my question though, was, are all the proceeds from 17 those entities, proceeds from the sale of inventory? 18 A good portion of them are, yes. A good portion, but not all? 19 20 There may be portions that are not, yes. 21 Okay. So you included all the costs of the employees, even though we don't get all the proceeds are not all 22 proceeds for inventory. Is that right? 23

I didn't ask you if it was part of the going concern

It was part of the going concern sale, yes.

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18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 218 of 333 Page 218 1 I asked you whether you included all of the costs, 2 even though not all of the proceeds from the sales of 3 inventory by those entities constituted or -- not all of the revenues constituted proceeds from the sale of inventory 4 5 from those entities. 6 Yes, I think that's right. 7 Okay. Now in your May 26th, 2019 declaration, you included a list in Paragraph 20 of the 506(c) chart, 8 9 surcharge items and the amounts. Do you recall that? 10 you have that? 11 Yes, I do recall that. 12 Okay. So look at Paragraph 20, then, on Page 7. 13 Α Okay. Have you looked at that? 14 15 Yes, I have. 16 Okay. And that was your entire written analysis of the 17 amounts that you assume from the total that should be the 18 506(c) charges, and they're all listed right there. That's your entire analysis, correct? 19 20

- It's the summary for the declaration, yes.
- 21 But there is no underlying data beyond that summary,
- 22 correct?
- 23 No, there's underlying data.
- 24 There's underlying data that comes to these numbers or
- 25 is there underlying data that covers the entire universe of

Pg 219 of 333 Page 219 1 costs from which you selected these numbers? 2 That is correct. Okay. Which is correct? 3 It's the entire universe that we've selected these 4 5 amounts. 6 So there's underlying data that shows the entire 7 universe of the costs, correct? 8 Yes. 9 Okay. And then, from that underlying data, you 10 selected these particular amounts for these particular line 11 items, correct? 12 Α Yes. 13 And there's no further support for these line items or 14 amounts other than the entire data for which you selected 15 these amounts, right? 16 I believe we provided the detailed file that has 17 everything in it, which would include these pieces, but I don't know. 18 Well, but it had everything, not just this, correct? 19 20 I think that's correct, yes. Okay. So there's no subset of that overarching data 21 22 that was produced from which one could see how you extracted 23 these amounts in these categories in Paragraph 20 of your 24 May 26th declaration, correct? 25 I'm not 100 percent positive. I don't know.

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 220 of 333 Page 220 1 You're not 100 percent positive? 2 No. Α But didn't you testify -- don't you recall testifying 3 on July 10th that this was all you had, was this Paragraph 4 5 That was your entire analysis? 6 I think we said we had the detail behind it. I believe 7 we provided the most detailed schedules. I'm not 100 8 percent sure. We actually provided the breakdown of these 9 amounts. 10 You're not sure if you provided it. 11 I don't believe we did. Okay. Thank you. Now in your declaration dated July 12 13 18th, in Paragraph 32, do you have that? 14 I do. Α 15 You say there, similarly the Debtors have 16 removed any professional fees related to the GOB store 17 process, the calculation of applicable professional fees was 18 narrowly tailored. My team and I calculated professional 19 fees for purposes of the 506(c) charge with assistance from 20 Counsel. And then you say, with them three's guidance, while reviewing all the applications for compensation for 21

fees incurred by the Debtors, and isolated only those

expenses that dealt directly with the going concern sale

process by using the task codes included in those filings.

Do you see that?

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A Yes.

- 2 Q In fact, didn't you previously testify at your
- 3 deposition that Counsel did that entirely?
- 4 A They did a lot of the work in terms of actually pulling
- 5 the data together. That's a lot of data, but yes, they did.
- 6 Q But in fact, you didn't personally do it at all, did
- 7 you?
- 8 A We discussed what was supposed to be done and be
- 9 included. They actually did a lot of the work in terms of
- 10 pulling the data.
- 11 Q I'm not asking you about we, whoever that is, I'm
- 12 asking you about you. You didn't do it, did you?
- 13 A I did not pull the data myself, no.
- 14 Q Okay. Counsel did that for you, correct?
- 15 A Counsel did it, yes.
- 16 Q Okay. And you didn't know on July 10th at your
- 17 deposition whether the professionals who are included in the
- 18 | \$51 million included Akin Gump or Houlihan Lokey, did you?
- 19 A I didn't know that off the top of my head, no.
- 20 Q Okay. And looking at Paragraph 32 of your declaration,
- 21 aside from the reference of \$14,927,627 related to Weil
- 22 Gotshal's fees, there's no fees listed for any other
- 23 professional listed there, right?
- 24 A That's right.
- Q Okay. And in the next paragraph, Paragraph 33, you

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- 1 talk about professionals on a fixed fee basis, such as
- 2 Evercore, and you say, for Evercore, you came to a ratio
- that resulted in including \$400,000 of a million dollar 3
- fixed fee, correct? 4
- 5 Yes.
- 6 Now you say you did the same thing for Lazard and
- 7 Houlihan and Lokey, but you don't list how much you -- that
- 8 resulted in here, do you?
- 9 Yeah, we listed one as an example.
- 10 Okay. And you didn't list the other two, did you?
- 11 We did not.
- 12 Okay. So between Paragraphs 32 and 33, there's no way
- to determine how you got the \$51 million, is there? 13
- 14 No, there is not.
- 15 Okay. Now one other thing. Excuse me one second. Mr.
- 16 Griffith, you also swore a declaration on April 15th, 2019,
- 17 which was entitled "The Declaration of Brian Griffith in
- 18 Support of Debtor's Objection to the Motion of Wilmington
- 19 Trust National Association as Indentured Trustee and
- 20 Collateral Agent to Prohibit or Condition Debtor's Continued
- 21 Use of Collateral, Including Cash Collateral." That was
- 22 filed on the docket at Docket 3198. And in Paragraph 4 of
- 23 that declaration, you stated --
- 24 MR. GENENDER: (indiscernible) was supposed to be
- 25 taken up today.

Page 223 1 MR. FOX: No, no, no. It's relevant to his 2 testimony today, not for the purposes of (indiscernible) 3 motion. 4 MR. GENENDER: If he's using it to impeach him, 5 he's got to show an inconsistent (indiscernible) --6 THE COURT: Well, he's setting up the question. 7 MR. FOX: Yeah. So in Paragraph 4 of that declaration, you've stated, 8 9 "The Debtors had no more than approximately \$2.88 billion of 10 collateral available to secure the first and second lien 11 debt senior to the second lien 2,000 notes." Do you 12 remember making that statement, Mr. Griffith? 13 I don't have a copy of that, but I'd need a copy. 14 It doesn't --15 THE COURT: Mr. Fox has said he's using this for 16 impeachment purposes, so he can show it to him now. 17 MR. FOX: Thank you. 18 THE COURT: And if it's not for impeachment, you could stand up again and say he's expanding on the direct. 19 20 MR. FOX: May I approach, Your Honor? 21 THE COURT: Yes. 22 So Mr. Griffith, turn if you would to -- I've handed you the -- your April 15, 2019 declaration. Turn, if you 23 24 would, to Paragraph 4. And read the third line to yourself, 25 please, the third sentence. I'm sorry. In Paragraph 4 to

Pg 224 of 333 Page 224 1 yourself. 2 Okay. All right. So again, let me just ask you again, now 3 that you had a chance to refresh your recollection. You can 4 put the document down. Did you state in your April 15th, 5 6 2019 declaration that the Debtors had no more than 7 approximately \$2.88 billion of collateral available to 8 secure the first and second lien debts senior to the second 9 lien 2010 notes? 10 That's what it appears to say, yes. 11 And that was your sworn statement, correct? O 12 Yes. 13 O Thank you. 14 Your Honor, based on this, I have no MR. FOX: 15 further questions. But based on Mr. Griffith's testimony, I 16 would ask that Paragraph 32 of his second supplemental 17 declaration -- I'm sorry, Paragraphs 32 and 33 of his second 18 supplemental declaration be stricken. And those relate to 19 the 506(c) costs for the professions. 20 THE COURT: This has nothing to do with his declaration, right? That's -- you're going back to his 21 22 earlier testimony before his last question? 23 MR. FOX: Yes. Yes, I'm going back now. 24 no further questions. 25 THE COURT: Okay, all right.

Page 225 1 MR. FOX: So going back to his --2 THE COURT: All right, so do you have a response 3 to that? 4 MR. GENENDER: Yeah, no. Thank you, Judge. I'll 5 make a segue to it. Judge, he's -- it is exactly what he 6 did and the fact that --7 THE COURT: I'll take it for what it's worth, you 8 cross-examined him on it. I think there's -- I get -- I 9 understand your cross-examination. I'm not going to strike 10 it. 11 MR. FOX: Okay, fine. We've also designated that 12 testimony, as some additional testimony, but I -- but the 13 point is, we think it's clear that he has no personal 14 knowledge of this at all and other people did it for him. 15 And now, he's testifying that he knows what happened. 16 you, Your Honor. 17 THE COURT: Okay. Well, he refers to my team, so 18 MR. FOX: Well, in his deposition testimony, Your 19 20 Honor, he just said his Counsel did it and he didn't know. 21 And when he was asked what -- about certain specific 22 professionals, he knew nothing about whether they were included or not. And that's the problem. And even with 23 24 respect to his testimony here, he (indiscernible) --25 THE COURT: I --

Page 226 1 MR. FOX: \$51 million can't be determined. 2 THE COURT: I view the Counsel as part of the 3 team. 4 MR. FOX: Thank you, Your Honor. 5 THE COURT: Okay. And they're probably most 6 knowledgeable in terms of evaluating (indiscernible) amount. 7 MR. GENENDER: So look, I was hitting the big trifecta, Judge. I'm just going to try and get organized 8 9 with these notes here, okay? 10 THE COURT: Okay. 11 RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MR. BRIAN GRIFFITH 12 BY MR. GENENDER: 13 Mr. Griffith, do you have your second supplemental declaration in front of you? 14 15 I do. 16 Can you turn to Exhibit H in your second supplemental 17 declaration? 18 Okay. That chart is entitled "506(c) Expenses". Do you see 19 20 that? 21 Α I do. 22 And it breaks expenses that you totaled according to 23 the time period that's reflected there. Do you see that? I do. 24 Α 25 Does that roughly correspond to the date of the ESL bid

- 1 through the APA being signed, and then the date of the APA
- 2 being signed through the APA closing?
- 3 A It does, yes.
- 4 Q First, you totaled the first number to be \$273 million
- of expenses, and the second number to be \$254 million of
- 6 expenses?
- 7 A That's right, yes.
- 8 Q And the pages following, is that the backup for those
- 9 figures?
- 10 A It is.
- 11 Q Okay. Exhibit I, while we're there, please? You had
- 12 | just asked your original declaration before we had anything
- on 507(b) or 506(c) from the two L's on May 26th had a chart
- 14 of the total (indiscernible) \$451 billion of expenses,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A That's right, yes.
- 17 Q Is that the same number that's reflected on Exhibit I
- 18 in your direct testimony declaration that was submitted last
- 19 week?
- 20 A It is, yes.
- 21 Q Now the pages that follow, the backup?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q And the last page, the JOB store on non-sale related,
- 24 are those the items on the backup that were excluded?
- 25 A As we excluded, yes, for the (indiscernible).

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- 1 So just to be clear, notwithstanding the fact that this
- 2 particular copy that I'm looking at is hard to read, if you
- 3 took that backup less what is on the last page, the \$295.3,
- 4 would you end up with the \$1.45 billion?
- 5 Yes.
- 6 Thank you, sir. Can you find Mr. Riecker's declaration
- 7 in one of the -- in the notebook that was provided to you --
- 8 it feels like a long time ago, by Mr. Norman. Do you have
- 9 that?
- 10 I do.
- 11 You asked about, I believe it was Paragraph 8, is that
- 12 right?
- 13 Α Yes.
- 14 You were also asked about this in your deposition, is
- 15 that correct?
- 16 I was, yes.
- 17 Do you believe Mr. Riecker made a mistake in this
- 18 paragraph?
- I believe the \$2.74 is not accurate, yes. 19
- 20 All right. Did you testify that in your deposition?
- 21 Α I did.
- 22 How do you believe it's inaccurate?
- 23 I believe they've taken the closed book value as
- 24 opposed to the NOLV, which they -- I would assume meant to
- 25 take it from the borrowing base.

18-23538-shl Doc 4928 Filed 08/21/19 Entered 08/21/19 11:45:32 Main Document Pg 229 of 333 Page 229 1 Okay. While we're on that, I'd like to ask you about 2 the April 15th declaration that Mr. Fox just handed you. You should have it loose copied. 3 4 Α Yes. 5 He asks you about the \$2.88 billion that you're on 6 Paragraph 4. Do you see that? 7 Α I do. Your sentence in your declaration says, "As provided in 8 the borrowing base certificate attached as Exhibit 1." Do 9 10 you see that? 11 I do. 12 If you turn to Exhibit 1, the borrowing base certificate, do you see anywhere on that the borrowing base 13 14 certificate, that \$2.88 billion figure? 15 I do not. 16 Okay. Might that \$2.88 billion figure in Paragraph 4 17 of your April 15th declaration, might that be a mistake? MR. FOX: Objection, Your Honor. That's a leading 18 19 question. 20 THE COURT: You can ask it. 21 Α It appears it can be possible, yes.

- 22 Okay. Would you defer, sir, instead, to what the
- referenced exhibit in this sentence says for the value of 23
- 24 the inventory?
- 25 I'm sorry, could you repeat that?

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- 1 Would you instead -- your sentence that you were asked
- 2 about referred, as provided in the borrowing base
- certificate attached is Exhibit 1 --3
- 4 Yes. Α
- 5 What does that say as to the value of the inventory?
- 6 Yeah, I mean, here we have the stock lender and the net
- 7 eligible inventory as of that October 13th date in the
- 8 exhibit.
- 9 I said inventory to be fair, that your text says
- 10 collateral, correct?
- 11 Correct.
- 12 Okay. Thank you. Have you ever seen a liquidation of
- a company -- a full-on liquidation of the company the size 13
- 14 of Sears, a full-on liquidation?
- 15 I have not been part of it, no.
- 16 You were asked questions about the letters of credit.
- 17 In fact, that they secured obligations under -- the
- 18 obligations as secured, right?
- 19 Yes.
- 20 And do you have an understanding as to what then the
- 21 vast majority -- you heard Ms. Murray's testimony that 89.1
- 22 percent related to worker's comp?
- 23 Α Yes.
- 24 Claims? Do you have a view, based on your knowledge,
- personal knowledge, as to how long out into the future those 25

Page 231 1 obligations can go? 2 I do. What is that view? 3 They can be outstanding for up to 20 to 30 years based 4 on potential claims filed by ex-employees for slip and fall, 5 6 for auto accidents, et cetera. They have in the past year, 7 paid out over \$26 million in claims under the various 8 policies that are in place. They can (indiscernible) 9 outstanding for quite some time. We would expect those LCs 10 to be either the liability will eventually be paid off as 11 time goes on through the monthly and weekly and daily kind 12 of payments or to the extent the company will just stop 13 performing, they would be (indiscernible). 14 Did you rely -- are you relying for any of your 15 calculations on the Tiger appraisals? 16 I am not. 17 Are you relying on any of the Abacus liquidation 18 appraisals from later in December or January? 19 I am not. 20 All right. Did you do a liquidation analysis? 21 Not associated with this, no. 22 You were asked questions about risks in liquidation. 23 Do you recall those questions? 24 Α I do. 25 I want -- at this point, I want to direct you to what

Page 232 1 have become rather noteworthy exhibits, Exhibits 8 and 9, 2 which are also attached to your declaration, to your second 3 supplemental declaration, okay? Can you get to those, please? 4 MR. GENENDER: And actually, it might be easier, 5 6 Your Honor, the excerpts I'm going to ask questions about 7 are in the (indiscernible) that's still underneath the piles 8 we've given you today. 9 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, may I be heard on this, 10 please? 11 THE COURT: Okay. 12 MR. MOLONEY: I have two objections. One, it's 13 beyond the scope. I asked no questions about these exhibits 14 at all. And second, I want to continue my objection to 15 (indiscernible) evidence. 16 MR. GENENDER: Judge, he absolutely referred 17 directly to offer. I mean, I'm just trying to move them 18 into evidence at this point. I mean, the issue of the fair 19 market value of the collateral as of the sale date is what 20 he's testified about is (indiscernible) --THE COURT: You can move to offer them into 21 22 evidence, but I don't think you can ask any questions about 23 them --24 MR. GENENDER: All right. 25 THE COURT: -- because it wasn't the subject of

Page 233 1 cross. 2 MR. GENENDER: Okay. 3 Mr. Griffith, Exhibits 8, what are marked as Joint Q 4 Exhibit 8 and 9 are attached to your declaration, is that 5 correct? 6 Yes. Α 7 And they're attached to your second supplemental declaration as Exhibits A and B, is that correct? 8 9 I believe so, yes. 10 Can you describe -- do you have personal knowledge of 11 the documents? 12 These were documents that were provided during 13 the course of negotiations to get the going concern and 14 transaction completed. 15 Do you know who prepared each of the documents? 16 I believe ESL and their advisors. 17 Were you present when these were presented? 18 I was. Did you review either and rely on either of these 19 20 documents when you were collecting facts from which you went 21 about determining factually what the fair market value of 22 the second lien collateral was that was sold as part of the 23 sale transaction? 24 Yes, we did. 25 MR. MOLONEY: (indiscernible) --

Page 234 1 THE COURT: May I have (indiscernible) on this? 2 (indiscernible) --3 RE-CROSS EXAMINATION OF BRIAN GRIFFITH BY MR. MOLONEY: 4 5 Were either of these documents contained in your initial declaration? 7 They were not in the initial declaration, no. And then you filed another declaration. Were either of 8 9 these documents contained in your second declaration? 10 We were looking to make the point stronger by 11 (indiscernible) --12 Can you answer my question? Were either of these documents referred to in your second declaration? 13 I don't recall if we talked about the fact that we had 14 15 additional documents. 16 You may look at it. 17 I don't believe we referenced them in the second -- or 18 in the first supplemental. Okay. And had you concluded your factual investigation 19 20 before your first declaration under oath as to the value of the collateral? Yes or no? 21 22 Can you repeat the question? Had you concluded your factual declaration as of -- as 23 24 to -- your first declaration under oath, as to the value of 25 collateral?

1 MR. GENENDER: This is not appropriate 2 (indiscernible) --MR. MOLONEY: Well he said that -- the question 3 4 was it was part of his factual investigation. I'm finding out whether in fact it was part of his factual, "factual" 5 6 investigation, because if that's the predicate for admitting 7 it, that was -- it apparently is not true. THE COURT: Continue. 8 9 It was the basis all along for how we understood the 85 10 cents. We pointed to the APA initially, I think to support 11 that, we also wanted to offer up additional documents that 12 we had. 13 You did not -- but did not refer it in either of your two declarations? 14 15 They're in my third declaration, yes. 16 MR. MOLONEY: Thank you. We object, Your Honor, 17 to the use of these documents. 18 THE COURT: Okay, on what basis? MR. MOLONEY: We object to them on the grounds 19 20 that they're parole evidence, on the grounds that the 21 (indiscernible) before he was deposed in this case, he had 22 to produce them. And that -- those are the two grounds. 23 THE COURT: Well, I've already ruled on the parole evidence (indiscernible). As far as the (indiscernible) --24 25 he should've produced them before his deposition. I don't

Page 236 1 know what the parties agreements or understanding were as 2 far as document production. 3 MR. GENENDER: I think I've answered that question, (indiscernible). 4 5 THE COURT: That's not an expert, so the ESL 6 wouldn't cover it, as referred to earlier. 7 MR. GENENDER: Well, I believe these were produced 8 by ESL, but Judge, I'm also going to say this and under the 9 theory of no good deed goes unpunished, he's not an expert, 10 but we kept getting declarations according to the expert 11 schedule, and now it's like, it's not fair that it 12 (indiscernible) --13 THE COURT: Well, this is an ESL Bates stamped --MR. GENENDER: Correct. 14 15 THE COURT: At least 8 is. Let me look at 9. 16 MR. GENENDER: Correct. So in terms of 17 (indiscernible) --18 THE COURT: 9 doesn't have a Bates stamp, actually, but 8 does. 19 20 MR. GENENDER: They were produced, Your Honor, by 21 ESL. That was a nonsensical comment by Counsel. 22 MR. MOLONEY: This is also, for the (indiscernible) draft, confidential, not for distribution --23 24 THE COURT: They stopped being admitted for the truth, because this is part of the settlement discussions, 25

Page 237 1 but it's being admitted for what the parties were talking to 2 each other about. 3 MR. MOLONEY: What are we objecting to being used -- it violates your settlement discussions --4 5 THE COURT: No, it's not being offered as the 6 truth. It's being offered as what they discussed. 7 MR. MOLONEY: And understanding what the relevance is, if it's not for the proof of the documents, I don't 8 9 understand what the relevance would be. We object on the 10 grounds of relevance, too, Your Honor. 11 THE COURT: It's reasonably relevant. 12 MR. GENENDER: I was actually in the process of 13 trying to lay the (indiscernible) offering. 14 THE COURT: Okay, all right. 15 RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF BRIAN GRIFFITH 16 BY MR. GENENDER: 17 Mr. Griffith, do you have the ESL bid summary in front 18 of you? 19 I do. 20 Q Okay. Is this a document that -- let me ask you a 21 question. Were you aware of the contents of these two 22 documents prior to preparing your second supplemental 23 declaration? 24 Yes, I was. 25 Okay. Do these documents confirm your memory of those

Page 238 1 two presentations? 2 They do. Do they provide context that factored into your factual 3 understanding of the value of the collateral in connection 4 5 with the sale? 6 Yes, they do. 7 Do they reflect -- does it inform your factual understanding to know how ESL, Counsel's own client referred 8 9 to the value of the very collateral at issue? 10 It does, yes. 11 Without reading the contents, because the documents are 12 not yet into evidence? If you can turn to the pages that 13 says JX or it doesn't say it there, it's the fourth page of 14 the ESL bid presentation? 15 Yes. 16 It says, "Transaction overview sources and uses." Do 17 you see that? 18 I do. I do not want you to read this out loud. In Footnotes 19 20 7 and 8, did you recall Footnotes 7 and 8 before attaching 21 this document to your declaration? 22 Α Yes, I do. Okay. Did you recall the references to the LC 23 24 facilities above, on that same page in connection with your 25 declarations?

Page 239 1 I do, yes. 2 Could these confirm those recollections? 3 Α It does. 4 If you can turn to the page of the presentation, it 5 says Page 12. Do you see the line that says "At 6 Illustrative Purchase Price"? That's a yes or no. 7 Α I see it. Yes. 8 And there's a number under going concern. Do you see 9 that? 10 I do. 11 Above that it says, "Remaining ABL Collateral." Do you 12 see that? 13 Α Yes. 14 How could those numbers for remaining ABL collateral 15 and at Illustrative purchase price, how do they compare with 16 numbers that aren't in Sections 3.1 and 10.9 of the APA? 17 They're identical. Α 18 Do you see next, this is -- and this is again a 19 document prepared by ESL, right? 20 It is. 21 Do you see there, next to going concerns, it says, 22 "Liquidation"? MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, he can't read from the 23 exhibit. It's not in evidence and he can't ask him about 24 25 the numbers. This is -- either we're going to get a foot in

Pg 240 of 333 Page 240 evidence and we'll have an objection, including under Rule 408 and parole evidence and relevance, because the date's way off in terms of when our offer bids were made, or it's not going into evidence. But we can't -- they shouldn't be able to (indiscernible) --THE COURT: You've already set up the context for the first one. You should just -- you should do this (indiscernible). So --MR. GENENDER: Thank you. THE COURT: Are you offering it into evidence? MR. GENENDER: I am offering it. Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: Okay. MR. GENENDER: I think I heard three objections. I am offering (indiscernible), and Your Honor, that's --MR. MOLONEY: And Your Honor, we would object on three grounds. We object on the grounds of parole evidence, understanding and respecting Your Honor (indiscernible) ruling. We object under Rule 408, because we don't believe that these -- that they're not being -- we don't think that Rule 408 permits the use of these documents in trial context for what we said during the discussions. That's what this witness -- that's the only purpose of doing that. And we object on relevance for multiple reasons.

One is it's -- and we object to it on the grounds that it's

an incomplete document. Four, because there's a preamble to

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Pg 241 of 333 Page 241 it that says that if we have the full document, it would say that this is not an offer. This is not something you can rely on. This is not an indication. So we object on all four grounds. MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, the joint exhibit list only reserves a right to argue relevance of any joint exhibit and to argue that a joint exhibit is in proper parole evidence, supported rule on parole evidence, and this is -- I think the Court's also ruled on relevance. And Judge, the last point I'd say is, and the UCC's Counsel can chime in as they deem appropriate, but we have a --MR. MOLONEY: (indiscernible) --MR. GENENDER: Excuse me. MR. MOLONEY: Sorry. MR. GENENDER: That we have equitable arguments, and I know the UCC does as well. And they certainly go to that, to the extent that the ESL is taking directly contrary positions now than those that were taken at the operative times, regarding the very facts and trying to -- and argue inequitably benefit from that at the expense of other stakeholders. MR. MOLONEY: Just for the benefit of the Court,

I'd like to read to Rule 408, Your Honor, prohibited use.

Evidence of the following is not admissible on behalf of any

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party, either to prove or disprove the validity or amount of the disputed claim. This 408 could not be clear, I think it's appropriate on three independent grounds, but under 408, it's clearly inappropriate.

MR. GENENDER: Judge, it's not a settlement communication. They're trying to get us -- ESL is trying to get us to accept a bid. They're trying to get us to --

MR. MOLONEY: We're trying to get a release.

MR. GENENDER: And it's a very complicated deal.

MR. WEAVER: Your Honor, just for the record, I want to (indiscernible) all (indiscernible). Your Honor, (indiscernible).

MR. GENENDER: You're a Judge, I provoked the UCC to come to my rescue.

MR. SORKIN: Your Honor, Joseph Sorkin, of Akin
Gump on behalf of the UCC. I don't know that I'm adding
anything new other than to simply point out when you
understand the context of the (indiscernible) log units
we've made to judicial estoppel on 19 hands. This is
exactly the sort of information that we are highlighting,
because on the one-hand, you had ESL as the potential
purchaser saying the inventory should be valued at a certain
amount, 85 percent -- excuse me, 85 cents as a going
concern, 82 and a half cents as a liquidation.

And then here, ESL as a second lien, saying

something completely different, that you have a 99 cent value. This goes to the equitable arguments, setting aside whether or not it could be admitted as evidence of -- parole evidence, which I think has already been ruled on, that's not what it's being used for.

But it is simply going to -- the statements they have made at the time about the value in connection with the sale that they were pursuing and advocating from the beginning of these cases. So I think separate and apart from everything else that has been raised, it is certainly admissible with respect to the equitable arguments that have been raised.

MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, from a legal point of view, the fact that they want to raise it for an equitable argument or a legal argument is totally relevant. So that argument's irrelevant other than that they're just trying not to poison the well by actually informing Your Honor a part of the story.

It's a more complicated document. Part of it required that (indiscernible) a release. Part of it was an indication of (indiscernible) value. Part of it was an effort on our part to compare apples and oranges, apples to apples and oranges to oranges at an earlier point in time, well before actually any of the bids occurred in this case, any of the contracts were drafted, well before additional

Page 244 1 billion dollars in value was put in play. 2 THE COURT: I understand that point. That goes to 3 the weight I gave it and how relevant I think it is. 4 MR. MOLONEY: Right. 408 just says you just can't 5 use it, and we shouldn't have even started down this road. 6 THE COURT: Well --7 MR. MOLONEY: And I think that 411 of this rule 8 does as well, with all due respect. 9 THE COURT: It's hard for me to see that all of 10 this is covered by 408. 11 MR. MOLONEY: I don't think you can 12 (indiscernible) --13 THE COURT: Well --14 MR. MOLONEY: If it's relevant to a 15 (indiscernible) claim regardless, Rule 408, that's exactly 16 the prohibitive real use of the Rule 408. That's what 408 17 says. THE COURT: But this isn't -- this isn't the claim 18 that you were negotiating. The only claim you were 19 20 negotiating here was the release. MR. MOLONEY: It does really -- that's not what 21 22 408 says. 408 says if it's being used for a claim and the prohibitive use, if it falls not in this (indiscernible), 23 24 but even to approve or disprove the validity of the matter 25 of the disputed claim or to impeach by a prior existing

Pg 245 of 333 Page 245 1 statement or a contradiction. And there are exceptions, and 2 they're not falling under any of the exceptions. I think in 3 a bankruptcy context, Your Honor, there are all types of negotiations that go on for people saying at the very 4 5 beginning, this is a 408 discussion and expect that the 6 confidence shows -- the value of those discussions and what 7 they say back and forth are not going to appear in a Court 8 hearing later on. 9 I think this is a broader issue than just this 10 particular argument in this case, and I think as a policy 11 matter, this is not appropriate. 12 MR. GENENDER: The document's not marked 408, it's 13 THE COURT: One of them is. The second one is, 14 15 but you're not just dealing with the first one. 16 MR. GENENDER: Yeah. And one of the Joint Exhibit 17 8 is actually produced with an ESL Bates number on it. 18 MR. MOLONEY: 408 does not protect us from the discovery, Your Honor. I'm not arguing it does. It does 19 20 protect us against this use of information in Court. 21 THE COURT: I (indiscernible) have the statute in 22 front of me and the rule on this just appeared. MR. MOLONEY: I could approach the bench. 23 24 hand it off, the rules.

So again, the context here is

THE COURT:

- compromising or attempting to compromise a claim or to a compromised negotiations about the claim, not just general negotiations.
- MR. MOLONEY: I think no one's going to say that our 507(b) claims are -- or (indiscernible) claims are not part of this whole picture.
- THE COURT: But that's not what people are negotiating here. This is a sale negotiation.
- MR. MOLONEY: Well, actually, it's a negotiation over a complete resolution, as I said, it's an incomplete document, so we don't have to get any release.
- THE COURT: Well, is there any mention of 507(b)

 here? I understand there are discussions about the release

 might be confidential, but I --
 - MR. MOLONEY: But they may -- Your Honor, the complete document, I don't even know whether that 507(b) gets mentioned. But that certainly was the fact that there would be administrative claims asserted as part of the ongoing negotiations, (indiscernible) of all of these discussions.
 - MR. GENENDER: Judge, I'm looking at 8, Your

 Honor, produced by ESL. ESL bid details, why ESL's bid

 should prevail to the party to whom they're making the bid.

 That's not settlement. And then, the litigation

 considerations. We're not focused on the litigation

consideration portion anyway.

And Your Honor, this -- their arguments might make sense. Are we litigating the release that became part of the APA. We're not. It's already in the APA. So the argument -- there's nothing being compromised here, and frankly, what they're trying to do is use this, this -- before this Court of equity, taking an equitable position by shielding the very evidence that shows how disingenuous the positions are that they're taking now, and questioning and suggesting to this fact witness that 85 cents has no bearing anywhere, except in their own documents.

And by the way, January 2nd was after they'd already submitted their initial bid. And they were inducing us -- the inducement was to get us to accept their bid, as this Court knows far better than me.

MR. MOLONEY: The next page, Your Honor, this is why we -- if I can approach the bench? If you look at JX08-14, you'll see that in the very next page, it's not in this binder, the shortened binder of the exhibit. It says, "As a result of the decrease of value, the 2L inter-collateral, ESL is a valid super priority claim of previously uncovered assets." It was quite -- this is the -- this is what we're looking over. It's right here in the next page of this presentation.

THE COURT: Let me see that. These are just

Page 248 1 questions, though. This is not part of the negotiation. 2 It's like a separate (indiscernible) --MR. MOLONEY: (indiscernible) --3 4 THE COURT: You are right that it's a -- this is a 5 separate issue. 6 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor --7 THE COURT: Consisting with how the parties have 8 dealt with this. (indiscernible) --MR. MOLONEY: (indiscernible) is that this is not 9 10 relevant, Your Honor. 11 THE COURT: Well --12 MR. MOLONEY: And it's --13 THE COURT: I think it's -- I'm not going to 14 exclude it on relevance. I believe it's --15 MR. MOLONEY: And not parole evidence, it's 16 improper parole evidence and --17 THE COURT: Well, I've already ruled on this. 18 This is not to enforce an agreement. MR. GENENDER: The only things they've reserved, 19 20 Your Honor, under the joint exhibit list were relevance and parole evidence, and I believe they've ruled on this. 21 22 THE COURT: Well, 408, if 408 would apply, it 23 would go to relevance, because if I had to exclude it, then 24 it wouldn't be relevant. But to me, people slap 408 on 25 almost everything that they exchange, and this does not seem

to be a settlement discussion on a claim for the purposes of the rule.

And it doesn't have to be about 507(b). That's not -- it doesn't have to be the claim at issue, as to why it would be excluded or not --

MR. MOLONEY: I just think people have -- I think people have a reasonable expectation, when they attend these type of meetings, an early stage of the negotiation that they can make good faith proposals back and forth that are not going to be part of a hearing like this. I think that was the intention of putting on -- but I respect Your Honor's ruling --

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MOLONEY: But I think that is the expectation of people in that circumstance, which I know Your Honor was in once not too long ago, that they're not going to see these type of folks show up in a hearing like this. Your Honor, having said that, Your Honor, I think that this has very little, if any relevance because that offer was not accepted. That bid never went forward. That ship sailed many years later.

THE COURT: Well, that's a separate -- that's a separate issue, all right? So I appreciate that.

MR. MOLONEY: I think there is very little relevance preventing it.

1	THE COURT: Okay, all right. But I actually I
2	think what you're alluding to Mr. Moloney is the types of
3	confidentiality stipulations and confidentiality orders that
4	are added in mediations when people are actually mediating a
5	claim. That wasn't done here. I don't think you have to do
6	it to protect true negotiations over claims. But to me,
7	this is a sale proposal, and I don't you know, just like
8	the Tiger and other proposals that are in the record,
9	they're not excluded because they're settlement
10	negotiations, I don't think this one is, either.
11	You're right. Part of the proposal was demanding
12	a release, but I think that stands on its own. I don't
13	think this ties into that. So I would admit it.
14	MR. GENENDER: That's as to 8, Your Honor? Would
15	the same apply to 9?
16	THE COURT: Well, let me see. I was actually
17	looking. In my book, 9 comes first for some reason. And I
18	was focusing on 9. 8 is the one that actually refers to
19	408?
20	MR. GENENDER: Yes, that's correct.
21	MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, I will (indiscernible),
22	Your Honor, but can I have just for the record, all my other
23	objections preserved as to (indiscernible)
24	THE COURT: Sure, absolutely.
25	MR. MOLONEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

Page 251 1 THE COURT: Yeah. 2 MR. GENENDER: I'd like to offer --3 THE COURT: As the letter to all parties. MR. GENENDER: I'd like to offer 8 and 9 together. 4 5 I'm happy to lay predicate for the sources of the uses 6 document. 7 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I think you already did -8 - no, you didn't do it as to 8 yet. 9 (Exhibit 9 is Admitted Into Evidence) 10 MR. GENENDER: Okay. So 9 is in. Let me do that 11 as to 8. 12 RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MR. BRIAN GRIFFITH 13 BY MR. GENENDER: 14 Do you have the document that's attached to your 15 declaration, Project Transform ESL Bid Presentation, January 16 2, 2019? I believe it's -- is it Exhibit A or B to your 17 second supplemental declaration? 18 I do. Okay. Also represent that is marked for identification 19 as Joint Exhibit 8. Mr. Griffith, is this a document that 20 21 you were thinking up in connection with coming up with the 22 facts that you used to evaluate the collateral on -- in 23 February? 24 It is, yes. 25 Were you present when this presentation was made?

Page 252 1 That's right. Do you see on the fourth page of the presentation, 2 3 which is also JX8-5, Footnotes 7 and 8? I do. 4 Α 5 Do you see the references to 85 cents? 6 Α Yes. 7 Do you see the numbers associated with projected book 8 value of inventory in Footnote 7? 9 MAN: Judge, what Exhibit are we now in? 10 MR. GENENDER: 8. 11 I do. Α 12 Do you see the number associated with projected book value of credit card and pharmacy receivables? 13 14 I do. Α 15 If you add those two numbers up, do you see any 16 correlation to what actually ended up in the APA? 17 Yes, that's the \$1,657,000,000. It's in the section I believe that (indiscernible). 18 Okay. Did any -- to your knowledge, did those -- did 19 20 that number change between January 2nd, 2019, the day that Exhibit 8 and when the APA was executed on January 17th? 21 22 I believe we delivered slightly more inventory, but 23 (indiscernible) --The number that's --24 Q 25 MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, I can't (indiscernible)

Pg 253 of 333 Page 253 1 the answers. 2 Did the total number change as was referenced in Section 10.9? 3 No, it did not. No. 4 If you'll turn to Page 12 of the -- if you will turn to 5 6 Page 12 of the document? Do you see the reference "To going 7 concern and liquidation scenarios"? 8 I do. 9 We talked about the going concern scenario. And there 10 is a Footnote 2 next to the liquidation scenario. Do you 11 see that? 12 Yes. Α 13 Footnote 2 says, "Assumes 85 percent purchase price and 14 going concern scenario, of a liquidation scenario assumes 82 15 and a half percent purchase price." Do you see that? 16 I do see that. Yes. 17 Who prepared this document? ESL and their advisors, I believe. 18 On January 2nd, 2018, it was -- 2019, it was presented? 19 20 Α Yes. 21 And you were there? Q 22 Α I was. MR. GENENDER: Now I'll offer Exhibit 8 into 23 evidence. 24

Okay.

THE COURT:

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Page 254 1 MR. MOLONEY: The same objections. 2 THE COURT: The same objections, the same ruling. 3 MR. GENENDER: Thank you. THE COURT: So I'll admit it. 4 5 (Exhibit 8 Admitted Into Evidence) 6 Mr. Griffith, are you aware of any analysis, of any of 7 the potential 506(c) expenses that any of the 2L experts 8 undertook? 9 No, I'm not. 10 In connection with the different analyses that you 11 performed, totaling \$1.451 billion and the alternative 12 numbers for the different dates we talked about, did you 13 ever take any efforts to ensure that there was no double 14 counting? 15 Yes, we did. 16 Okay. Is it your testimony that there is no double 17 counting? 18 There is no double counting. You understand Ms. Murray did, according to her 19 20 testimony and NOLV analysis? 21 Α Yes. 22 In which she took the net eligible inventory and 23 applied 88.7 to that? 24 Α Yes. 25 If you have the 507(b) chart, do you see your inventory Pg 255 of 333

- 1 number is \$2.287 billion, correct?
- 2 I do. I see that.
- 3 Could you do a (indiscernible) check, even though you
- 4 didn't do an eligibility, a liquidation analysis, could you
- 5 do a (indiscernible) check comparison, taking your number of
- 6 \$2.287 and dividing it by the same \$2.391 net eligible
- 7 inventory number that she did, when she applied 88.7 percent
- 8 to that number? If you took as a numerator your \$2.287 and
- 9 divided it by \$2.391, did you -- do you know what that math
- 10 is?
- 11 It would be more than 95 percent or 95 plus.
- 12 Where she had 88.7, you'd have 95 plus?
- 13 Α Yes.
- Mr. Griffith, were the letters of credit, the two 14
- 15 letters of credit part of the sale?
- 16 Α Yes, they were.
- 17 Were the three -- were they part of the purchase price?
- 18 Α Yes.
- Were they \$395 million of the purchase price? 19
- 20 Yes, they were.
- 21 As it relates to the post-petition interest, Judge
- 22 Drain asked you a question, what was your purpose in
- 23 calculating and including \$34 million of post-petition 1L
- 24 interest?
- 25 It was just the bare minimum interest we would expect

- 1 to incur regardless of the path chosen. Again, it's just
- 2 related to the first lien debt and not DIP, and only for a
- 3 three-month period.
- 4 Q Mr. Griffith, if that number were not included in the
- 5 507(b) analysis, that \$34 million, would it be a 506(c)
- 6 potential expense?
- 7 A It would, yes.
- 8 Q Did you double count there?
- 9 A We did not. Like I said, in our analysis we came up
- 10 with, there is no diminution in value. There is no 507
- 11 date, when we applied for the post-petition first lien
- 12 interest. To the extent that that was not going to be the
- case where there was a 507(b), we would then have the full
- amount for the 506(c) to be calculated.
- 15 Q As it relates to 506(c), Mr. Griffith, do you have your
- 16 second supplemental declaration in front of you?
- 17 A I do.
- 18 Q You see Paragraphs 29 and 30 on Pages 15 and 16.
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Those are your -- are those your descriptions of what
- 21 you included and what you excluded?
- 22 A Yes, it is.
- 23 Q Did Counsel for the second lien holders ask you about
- those descriptions when they were cross-examining?
- 25 A No, they did not.

Page 257 MR. GENENDER: I'll pass the witness. Thank you, 1 2 Your Honor. MR. MOLONEY: Your Honor, I didn't expect to be 3 asking about Exhibits 8 and 9, so if you -- I just want to 4 5 make sure you know (indiscernible) save full copies, and you 6 can just make sure we have it? 7 THE COURT: Sure, that's fine. 8 MR. GENENDER: I think they're in your book, Your 9 Honor. 10 THE COURT: They're attached to his declaration, 11 right? MR. GENENDER: I don't know if the entire --12 13 THE COURT: Is the full copy attached to his 14 declaration? I'm not sure. 15 MR. GENENDER: Yes. Yes. 16 THE COURT: Okay. 17 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MR. BRIAN GRIFFITH 18 BY MR. MOLONEY: . Well, we'll find out (indiscernible). Let's start 19 20 with Exhibit Number 9. Do you have that in front of you? 21 Which one is that, (indiscernible)? 22 It's the first (indiscernible), Exhibit Number 9, it's dated December 2018. 23 24 Okay, yes. Α 25 Okay? And looking at the second page of this exhibit,

- 1 you see this claimant?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q It says, "This presentation is solely for informational
- 4 purposes. The presentation is not intended to provide the
- 5 basis for a decision on any transaction. The recipient
- 6 should make its own independent business and legal decisions
- 7 based on all (indiscernible) information. Advice and
- 8 recipient's own judgment." And it says in bolded language,
- 9 "This presentation is not an offer to sell or a solicitation
- 10 or an indication of interest to purchase any security
- 11 option, commodity, future loan or currency. It is not a
- 12 commitment to underwrite any security to (indiscernible)
- 13 | funds or to make any investments." Did I read that right?
- 14 A I do see that, yes.
- 15 Q And looking to the second page, the footnote you were
- 16 looking at begins with the word "Footnote 7 should assume
- 17 | purchase (indiscernible)," right, on Footnote 7? It's a
- 18 number on the top based on the assumption, correct?
- 19 A That's what it says, yes.
- 20 Q Right? And the number -- Number 8 is simply an
- 21 assumption, right? It says, "Assumed purchase" -- it's an
- 22 assumption, right?
- 23 A That's what it says, yes.
- 24 Q There's no statement here with an opinion of that,
- 25 right?

- 1 A Just the assumptions they're using here with the
- 2 sources and (indiscernible), yeah.
- 3 Q Thank you. I have no more questions about this
- 4 exhibit. I wanted to note, it says in the right hand
- 5 corner, "Preliminary draft, confidential, not for
- 6 distribution," right?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And was there any discussion in the meeting that people
- 9 would not use this information for any purpose, that
- 10 (indiscernible) speech as to how to use the information?
- 11 A I don't recall. I don't believe so.
- 12 Q Were you at the meeting?
- 13 A I was.
- 14 Q Okay. Looking at Exhibit JX08-1, the first page it
- should say, Your Honor, "Logic transform ESL bid
- 16 presentation." And it should have a stamp, "Highly
- 17 | confidential, not for distribution subject to Rule 408." Do
- 18 you see that?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Mr. Griffith? And it says, in (indiscernible), "Any
- 21 information regarding valuation forecasts, projections,
- 22 recoveries or treatment of this presentation is for
- 23 illustrative and discussion purposes only, and assumes that
- 24 all transactions contemplated here are executed in a timely
- 25 manner, and that no transaction will be executed unless all

Page 260 1 transactions are executed as contemplated herein, right? 2 I see it, yes. And the date is January 2, 2019? Is that correct? 3 4 Yes. Α 5 And this exhibit has the same disclaimer that we just 6 looked at at the -- before and the second page, correct? 7 Α Yes. And including that was not a commitment to make any 8 9 investment, right? 10 Α Yes. 11 And there's -- in the next page, there's one that's 12 (indiscernible) it says, "Litigation consideration." Is 13 that right? 14 Yes, that's one of them. 15 And the meeting was in part to discuss litigation 16 considerations? 17 Yes, it was one of the topics. 18 And was there any discussions beginning this meeting as to whether the parties would -- how the parties would use 19 20 the information that was conveyed during the meeting or 21 whether they would be under any undertaking to keep it 22 confidential? It's a long time, but I don't recall if there was or 23 24 was not. 25 Were you at the meeting?

Pg 261 of 333 Page 261 1 Yes, I believe I was. 2 Okay. Now if you look at the next page, it's -- it 3 says beginning, "ESL's pleased to offer its \$4.4 billion bid 4 for Newco as a going concern." Do you see that? 5 Yes. 6 What's the ultimate bid in this case, the \$4.4 billion 7 bid? No, there was -- it was \$5.2. 8 9 So the bid being discussed here is not the bid that was 10 actually made in this case, right? 11 I think additional liabilities were assumed. 12 And there's a reference here in a rollover debt, they included both the \$232 (indiscernible) DIP, and the \$271 13 14 million of the (indiscernible) facility, correct? 15 Yes. 16 And then your build-up to say that 100 percent wasn't 17 paid from the collateral on -- under \$3.1 in the ultimate 18 purchase agreement, you didn't cap the \$271 million, otherwise you would've gone over 100 percent, right? 19 20 To (indiscernible) a separate part of the APA 21 consideration. 22 Okay. And looking at the next page, again, Footnote 7 23 and 8 did the same as the other footnotes before, and

they're just assumptions. They're no opinions, right?

It says assumed purchase price, yes.

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Pg 262 of 333 Page 262 1 And turning the page again, it -- go to page date X08-2 And as a reference to how the two (indiscernible) is 12. 3 going to be covered by the proposal, right? 4 What page are you on? Α 5 JX08-12. Page 12 of the presentation. Actually, 11 of 6 the presentation, but it bears Bates stamp number JX008-12. 7 Α Okay. 8 You see that? And you see where it says two 9 (indiscernible)? And it says, "To be used to bid for 10 inventory and ABL collateral," and you see that bullet 11 point? And it indicates that the residual claim, I mean, 12 the portion of the claim that was not bid for inventory or 13 collateral was to include adequate protection super priority 14 liens and claims, right? 15 I see that. 16 So basically, did they indicate that they expected that 17 part of this package that they would obtain adequate protection and super priority liens and claims for the 18 19 remainder of their claim, correct? 20 That's what they believed, yes, they did. 21 And what was discussed about that? 22 I don't recall the exact conversations. Α It was a while 23 ago. 24 I have no more questions, Your Honor.

Okay.

THE COURT:

25

Page 263 1 MR. GENENDER: No questions, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Okay. CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MR. BRIAN GRIFFITH 3 4 BY MR. FOX: Mr. Griffith, Edward Fox. You asked whether it was 5 6 double counting in the 506(c) charges or (indiscernible). 7 And you said there was no double count. Now you're aware 8 that there is a professional fee carve-out account in this 9 case, correct? 10 Yes. 11 Okay. And findings are taken off the top of the first and second lien collateral and put into the professional fee 12 carve-out account to pay for the fees and expenses with any 13 professionals, the hand-off of the second lien holders, 14 15 correct? 16 Yes. 17 Okay. And so, that's taken place on a weekly basis, 18 and as those fees have been approved, they have been paid, 19 correct? 20 We fund the account. And then, as with the 21 applications are approved, we will disperse what we can from 22 the account. Yes. 23 Right. So now once of the surcharges you want includes 24 \$51 million for professional fees, correct? 25 As part of the 506(c), yes.

- 1 O Okay. And in fact, though, all of those fees are
- 2 | funded out of the carve-out account in order to pay it out
- 3 of the carve-out account ahead of the second lien
- 4 collateral, correct?
- 5 A I mean, we're viewing them as expenses incurred post-
- 6 petition for the benefit of the sale, so yes.
- 7 Q I didn't ask you that. I asked you if those -- that
- 8 | \$51 million is part of the professional fees that get funded
- 9 out of the professional fee carve-out account ahead of the
- 10 second liens collateral and paid when those -- as those fee
- 11 applications are approved?
- 12 A Yes, they'd be funded from the (indiscernible) account.
- 13 Q Thank you. I also wanted to ask you about the letter
- 14 of credit facility that came up again. The total is \$395
- 15 million of the two letter of credit facilities, correct?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Okay. And one of those is the \$271 million facility,
- 18 and I believe that's cash collateralized by ESL and the
- 19 Cyrus, correct?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q Okay. But nevertheless, you believed that that \$271
- 22 million of undrawn LCs should come ahead of the second lien
- in the inventory collateral stack, correct?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q Okay. And you also said there's \$123.8 million, I

- 1 think, of letters of credit, which are part of the ABL DIP
- 2 loan, correct?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Okay. And so, of the \$850 million that was owing on
- 5 the ABL DIP loan at the closing of the sale, part of that
- 6 \$850, \$123 was the undrawn letters of credit, correct?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q Okay. The \$271 million, though, was not part of that
- 9 \$850, correct?
- 10 A That's correct.
- 11 Q Okay. So the \$271 million that you're saying encumbers
- 12 our collateral ahead of the second lien was not included in
- 13 | the \$850, correct?
- 14 A That's a separate facility, yes.
- 15 Q But it's not included in the \$850, correct?
- 16 A It's not part of that facility, no.
- 17 Q Okay. And it's not included in the \$433 million credit
- 18 bid, correct?
- 19 A That's correct.
- 20 Q Okay. And it's not included in the \$125 million
- 21 (indiscernible) loan payoff either, right?
- 22 A That's correct.
- 23 Q Okay. So it's an additional \$271 million relating to
- 24 the inventory, which has to be paid off at the closing on
- 25 top of those amounts that I just referred to, the first lien

- 1 loan, \$850, the credit bid of \$433 and the \$125
- 2 (indiscernible) loan, correct?
- 3 A Yes. It's a different piece, yes.
- 4 Q Fine. And so, in addition to the \$850 to \$433 and the
- 5 \$125, which totals a billion 408, they also had to pay off
- 6 an additional \$271 million of letters of credit relating to
- 7 the credit bid, which would then total \$1,679,000,000,
- 8 correct?
- 9 A I believe it's the same (indiscernible) structure they
- 10 have today, the 271 is still outstanding. It never came
- 11 against the borrowing base, but it is not a part of the APL
- 12 facility, so it's the same. It might as well --
- 13 Q But you're counting it against our collateral, correct?
- 14 A I don't believe I am.
- 15 Q Well, when you say the \$271 million comes ahead of the
- 16 second lien and it adds to the total amount that was
- 17 outstanding on top of the first lien ABL, you're adding it
- 18 ahead of us, correct?
- 19 A Well, it is first lien down.
- 20 Q Okay. So let's go back to my question again. Is the
- 21 | \$850 million a first lien ABL debt that had to be paid off
- 22 that was a lien in on a collateral, \$433 million credit bid
- 23 for the second lien, \$125 million five loan, which was a
- 24 first lien application. According to you, there's \$271
- 25 million additional, which is a lien on the inventory ahead

Page 267 of the second lien. Those four things together total 1 2 \$1,679,000,000, don't they? 3 It's a separate part of the APA, but yes. But your answer is yes, correct? They total 4 5 \$1,679,000,000, don't they? 6 I'd have to do the calculation (indiscernible)? 7 Well, go ahead. Would you like me to calculate it? 8 (indiscernible) --9 Would you like one? 10 No, I think we're good. 11 Okay. So what's the -- do you want to do the 0 calculation and tell me the answer? 12 It sounds correct. 13 Okay. Now what was the amount of inventory in Section 14 10.9 that had to be turned -- collateral that had to be 15 16 turned over in connection with a closing in the sale? 17 It's a billion 657. Okay. Now if you divide the before, to get to your 85 18 percent, you divided what, what was that formula? 19 20 It's the \$850 from the ABL facility, it's the \$433 on 21 the credit bid, and it's the \$100 and -- I believe it's the 22 \$150 term loan, (indiscernible) term loan. So you divided the \$1,408,000,000 by -- what was the 23 amount of \$10.9? 24 25 \$1,657,000,000.

Page 268 1 By -- and you've got 84.9 percent, correct? 2 85 percent, yes. Okay. So if you divide \$1,679,000,000 divided by 3 Q 4 \$1,657,000,000, you get 101 percent, correct? Is that the 5 math? 6 The math is correct. 7 Q Thank you. Thank you. 8 THE COURT: Okay, thanks. 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MR. PAUL GRIFFITH 10 BY MR. GENENDER: 11 Mr. Griffith, was the \$271 million line of credit --12 letter of credit facility outstanding on the petition date? 13 Α Yes. 14 Was it paid as part of -- is it paid off as part of the 15 sale transaction? 16 It was, yes. 17 Is the last bit of math that you did relevant to the value of the collateral based on your factual observations? 18 19 I don't think so. No. 20 Q Did you calculate -- we talked about this in the 21 response -- there was a discussion at the morning break. 22 Did you -- during the break, did you calculate the carve-out 23 funding to date? 24 Yes, we did. 25 Do you recall what that number is?

Page 269 1 I believe it was approximately \$213 million. 2 Okay. And if that number were included in -- as a senior debt, would that matter, the \$1.45 billion of 501(c) 3 potential surcharges expenses that you testified to? 4 5 We would remove I think the \$51 million that we've 6 referenced as a part of the 506(c). 7 Q Okay. 8 MR. GENENDER: May I approach the witness, Your 9 Honor?. 10 THE COURT: Okay. 11 MR. GENENDER: I have an updated demonstrative, 12 but (indiscernible) --13 THE COURT: (indiscernible). 14 MR. GENENDER: I (indiscernible) asked him before 15 (indiscernible). 16 Mr. Griffith, is -- did I just -- is what I handed you, 17 is that a demonstrative that would -- that was prepared by 18 you and your team at the lunch hour? 19 Yes, it is. 20 0 Is the left-hand column Griffith with CO, is that 21 carve-out? Is that what's (indiscernible)? 22 Yes, that's the carve-out. Okay. Does that fairly and accurately reflect what you 23 just testified to? 24 25 It does.

Page 270 1 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, may I pass the 2 (indiscernible). 3 THE COURT: Okay. 4 Do you -- at the meetings you were at in December 2018 5 and January 2nd, 2019 that would reflect -- that are 6 reflected in Joint Exhibits 8 and 9, do you have any memory 7 of anyone talking about confidential settlement of disputed 8 claims? 9 I honestly don't recall. 10 You have no memory of that? 11 I do not. 12 What, if anything, do you recall anyone on behalf of 13 ESL at either of those meetings talking about in terms of the 85 cent references in the documents in connection with 14 15 the 2L collateral? 16 MR. MOLONEY: We object, Your Honor. 17 (indiscernible). THE COURT: I'm sorry, on what basis? 18 MR. MOLONEY: On the basis of the -- of all the 19 20 objections I've raised before about it, but (indiscernible) 21 repeating them. 22 THE COURT: All right, okay. So you can answer 23 the question. I can't recall specific conversations, but I know that 24 25 this is what was discussed in terms of the (indiscernible) -

Page 271 1 2 Do you recall references to the --3 MR. MOLONEY: I object to that. If he wants to 4 just --5 MR. GENENDER: I'm going to ask a different 6 question --7 MR. MOLONEY: All right, so I'm not going to --8 MR. GENENDER: Move to strike that answer. 9 THE COURT: Go ahead. 10 Do you recall references to 85 cents during the Q 11 meetings? 12 Α Yes. 13 All right, by who? 14 By Moelis and ESL, I believe. 15 Q Okay. 16 MR. GENENDER: Thank you, Your Honor. 17 THE COURT: Okay. Anything on that? Okay, you can step down. 18 19 MR. GENENDER: Your Honor, the Debtors rest on 20 this. THE COURT: Okay. All right. Do you have any 21 22 rebuttal on the 506(c)? 23 MR. FOX: No. 24 THE COURT: No? All right. Well, I think 25 notwithstanding, all the work the parties did, they were

Page 272 1 overly optimistic that I'd be in a position to hear oral 2 argument and rule today. We should get a date as soon as --3 a date for Ms. Lee that is as close to today as possible to have oral argument and a ruling, I think it'd be half a day 4 5 for both -- you know, total half a day for oral argument and 6 a ruling. 7 MR. FOX: Thanks very much. 8 MR. GENENDER: Thank you, Your Honor. 9 MR. MOLONEY: Thank you, Your Honor. I'm going to 10 be out of the country next week, Your Honor. 11 MAN: Oh don't even start with me, Tom. 12 MR. MOLONEY: Well, no, I'm just saying. 13 MAN: I tried to get out of here --14 MR. GENENDER: You were so accommodating --15 MAN: Your Honor, is it possible tomorrow --16 THE COURT: Well, talk to Ms. Lee. She runs 17 (indiscernible). I know (indiscernible), but I 18 (indiscernible) have -- Thursday afternoon. 19 MAN: Your Honor, in all fairness, I mean, we've 20 had trouble scheduling with Mr. Schrock until literally last 21 week, when we had a call before we spoke. He's on a plane 22 tonight in California. He's doing the closing 23 (indiscernible), so --THE COURT: So --24 25 MAN: I'm assuming that was an oversight.

Page 273 1 THE COURT: Well, I don't know who's doing the 2 final arbiting. 3 MAN: He is. We told him that. 4 THE COURT: Well, I think you should talk now between yourselves, unless you have to go out to the airport 5 6 right now, Mr. Schrock, and figure out what days you'd be 7 available, and then --8 MR. SCHROCK: Okay. We'll do that, Judge. 9 MAN: Thank you. 10 THE COURT: (indiscernible) is probably not here 11 at this point, so you could talk to her tomorrow morning. 12 MAN: Okay, thank you, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: Okay. 14 MAN: Thank you, Judge. 15 MAN: Thank you, Your Honor. 16 (Whereupon these proceedings were concluded at 17 5:42 PM) 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Page 274 1 CERTIFICATION 2 3 I, Sonya Ledanski Hyde, certified that the foregoing 4 transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. 5 Digitally signed by Sonya Ledanski Sonya 6 DN: cn=Sonya Ledanski Hyde, o, ou, Ledanski Hyde email=digital@veritext.com, c=US Date: 2019.08.07 15:31:45 -04'00' 8 Sonya Ledanski Hyde 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 Veritext Legal Solutions 21 330 Old Country Road 22 Suite 300 23 Mineola, NY 11501 24 25 Date: July 25, 2019

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